Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, January 8, 2008  
WWI Museum, Liberty Memorial  
Kansas City, Missouri

The meeting was called to order by Judge Deanell Tacha. Present were Tacha, Dillingham, Maag, Breidenthal, Dunfield, Jones, McCoy, Northern, Clark and Billings. Absent were Arter, Gibson, McCarthy, Wagnon, Rolfs, Balderson.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved. Board members attended the Partnership Meeting at Ft. Leavenworth in November instead of meeting as a board and enjoyed a holiday gathering at Tacha’s home in December.

Billings shared an OpEd piece about FFNHA recently posted on the web referencing private property rights and noting that the organization seems to be centered on Lawrence. It was written by an independent author living in SW Missouri. Billings stated that private property rights are directly addressed in the enabling legislation and that some of the comments in the piece were entirely incorrect. Getting better understanding by more people committed to our goals will be important so this type of misinformation will not spread. There was much discussion about how to use this communication to our advantage by getting more publicity and people involved. Tacha challenged the Missouri members of the board to help in this effort suggesting a meeting be arranged with the KC Star editorial board and solicitation of funding support from the KC metropolitan area. There is a growing number of grassroots participants from Missouri. Billings and Clark have an appointment with the Kemper Foundation on January 18.

A financial report was presented with a list of donors. Total current assets are $158,317.82 with an additional $75,000 committed from the Ks. Dept. of Commerce grant. Billings reported that Congress passed and the President signed a 2008 budget that includes $$ for heritage area development. This is likely to bring $150,000 in federal funds directly to FFNHA in 2008. Billings will attend a meeting at the NPS office in Omaha in March to learn more about the reporting process for receiving federal money. Clark commented that internal controls and audits will be extremely important as we move forward. Contributions and commitments of Founding Donors were reviewed with Billings noting a major oversight of the MidAmerica Regional Council (MARC) investment of $25,000 is omitted. MARC will be added to the Oregon Trail Circle level.

In review of the fundraising progress, Tacha stated that she had requested and received backing from the Douglas County Commission in the amount of $150,000. This request was made so that the signing of the contract for facilitation of the Management Plan
could be done with a higher level of comfort. Billings reported that she has ordered commemorate coins that can be used to given to donors and for special occasions. Cost is approximately $2,000 and will be reflected in the next financial statements.

Discussion turned to the proposed contract and Scope of Work for facilitation of the Management Plan. Tacha explained that she had been involved in negotiations on the contract and asked for input from the board. Jones recommended that the statement under Project Description referencing oversight by the National Park Service be struck. Discussion centered on possible delays with the bureaucracy of NPS. We will be working closely with the Omaha office to get input and gain approval along the way but we don’t want to be held up waiting for NPS. Clark commented that he believes that the way the termination clause is written, the contract could be delayed rather than terminated if needed. There was discussion about whether there would be charges for additional services. It appears that the scope of work covers most of what is expected to be accomplished; however, with these types of contracts there is always that possibility. We’ll do all we can to keep the work within the defined scope.

In each Phase of the Scope of Work, there is a “sign off” requirement by the Steering Committee and the Board of Trustees before moving to the next Phase. The Steering Committee for this purpose is made up of members of the Partnership Team who also served in the selection of the Management Plan professional team. They will report regularly to the Board. If there are any red flags in the process, they can be raised through this means.

Completion date of the plan should be changed in the contract to February 2009 to reflect 12 months of work to begin in February 2008 with corresponding dates in Scope of Work to be changed.

Tacha stated that she had asked that the environmental paragraph be struck but was not successful. Dunfield and Clark both confirmed that this is no doubt a requirement by the consultant’s insurance company and that they are comfortable with the language.

Dillingham moved to authorize Tacha to sign the document with the recommended changes. Breidenthal seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Tacha requested that the board read the contract and Scope of Work carefully in the next 24 hours and let her know if there is any issue of concern. She will sign and return the document after that time period.

Future meetings will be the first Tuesdays of the month: February 5, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 2 at the time agreed upon. Dillingham suggested that the February meeting be held at the downtown Kansas City Library. He will make the contact.

Meeting adjourned.
Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, March 11, 2008  
Kansas City Central Library Annex  
Kansas City, Missouri  

The meeting was called to order by Judge Deanell Tacha. Present were Tacha, Dillingham, Gibson, Balderson, Dunfield, Jones, Northern, Clark and Billings. Absent were Arter, Maag, McCarthy, Wagnon, Rolfs, Breidenthal, McCoy. Guest and potential board member, Bill Tempel, attended.

Tacha introduced Crosby Kemper III, Director of the KC Library who she had met with prior to the official meeting. His philosophy of programs at the library and those proposed for FFNHA are very synergistic and the hope is to partner closely in the future. Mr. Kemper agreed to become a member of the Board and was heartily welcomed.

The new commemorative coins were distributed to those in attendance.

On a motion by Dillingham and a second by Jones, minutes of the January meeting were approved. The February meeting had been cancelled due to inclement weather.

John Dillingham spoke of Congressman Skelton’s letter of support to MO Governor Blunt. He suggested that we also bring Lt. Governor Peter Kinder, in his role as co-chair of the Missouri Tourism Commission, up to date which he agreed to do. Tacha, Billings, Dillingham and McCarthy are scheduled to meet with Governor Blunt on April 2.

A financial report was presented with a list of donors. Total current assets are $170,071.68 with an account receivable of $75,000 committed from the Ks. Dept. of Commerce grant.

In review of the fundraising progress, Billings reported success in the amount of $2,500 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation grant. She and Clark have met with Sam Bennett, Assistant Vice President and William T. Kemper Foundation Program Manager. A request for $50,000 will officially be made to the foundation in the next few weeks. The Foundation committee will meet in mid-April. Billings and Gibson have met to discuss two foundations in Paola and registration with DonorEdge at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation is in progress. All were encouraged to be more active in fundraising with a goal of meeting the needs set forth in the proposed budget for 2008 including the development of a more effective website.
The public process of the Management Plan with the contractors began with a meeting of 100+ partners in Harrisonville on February 14. Billings reported a successful beginning for the next 12 months of work.

Billings reported on her trip to Washington DC the prior week for the Alliance of National Heritage Areas ANHA meeting. A white paper approved by the group was distributed outlining the strategy for all 37 currently designated areas to work with elected officials to raise the pool of funding in the FY09 federal budget to $37m. This would allow each of the areas to equitably obtain the authorized $1m. Congressman Skelton has written a letter to his colleague and friend, Chairman Dicks of the NPS Appropriations Committee, supporting an increase in the heritage area program line item of the FY09 budget.

In the meantime, enabling legislation for FFNHA authorized $10m over 15 years. With that in mind (and not to wait to find out whether the pool is increased to accommodate all areas), Billings has submitted appropriations requests to each of the MO/KS Congressional offices for $1m in FY09. She met with staff of each of the offices reporting excellent support from each office. As everyone knows, it’s a slow process with no guarantees so all were urged to contact any Congressional office in support of this request.

Tacha reiterated the agreement by this board to contract with newly established Destination Management, Inc. (DMI) in Lawrence to manage the business of FFNHA. A draft contract will be presented for consideration at the next meeting. Charles Jones, a Douglas County Commissioner, reminded everyone that the contract between the City of Lawrence and DMI to manage the Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau is currently underwriting Billings’ compensation for managing FFNHA work and that this organization will eventually need to be self sufficient. Tacha also reminded the board that the Douglas County Commission agreed to co-sign for the Management Plan contract of $300,000.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, 3:00pm in Lawrence at the Eldridge Extended. We will meet with our professional contractors and the Steering Committee of the Partnership Team to further the management planning process.

Future scheduled meetings are May 6, June 2 at 3:00pm at a location to be announced. A suggested location for May is the Shawnee Indian Mission in Fairway, KS.

Meeting adjourned.
Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, April 1, 2008
The Eldridge Extended
Lawrence, Kansas

The meeting was called to order by Judge Deanell Tacha. Present were Tacha, Dillingham, Gibson, Dunfield, Jones, Northern, Clark, Rolfs and Billings. Absent were Arter, Balderson, Maag, McCarthy, Wagnon, Breidenthal, McCoy and Kemper.

The board met with members of the FFNHA Management Plan Steering Committee to hear a presentation by the consultants on the area’s vision and mission. Other business of the board will be taken up at the next meeting.

Management Plan Steering Committee had met immediately prior to the Board meeting to gain consensus on vision and mission statements. Members present were Eileen Robertson, Terry Ramsey, Deborah Barker, Carol Bohl, Paul Bahnmaier, Alexis Radil, and Debbie White. Consultants attending were Cheryl Hargrove, Frank Martin, Christy Davis, Mike McGrew and Richard Yates. Guests included Sue Pridemore, NPS and Susan Henderson, LCVB staff.

Frank Martin reviewed the visioning process and results including the introduction of a white paper report on the process including findings followed by discussion. Cheryl Hargrove reported on the process of developing an updated Statement of National Significance and Interpretive Themes.

Mike McGrew, JLBruce LLC, presented the communications process for data collection and analysis. Technology is playing a big part in this process. Hargrove gave an overview of Phase 2 and 3 ahead and answered questions.

Future scheduled meetings are May 6, June 2 at 3:00pm at a location to be announced. A suggested location for May is the Shawnee Indian Mission in Fairway, KS.

Meeting adjourned.
The meeting was called to order by John Dillingham, Vice Chair. Present were, Dillingham, Gibson, Breidenthal, Dunfield, Northern, Clark, Rolfs and Billings. Absent were Tacha, Arter, Balderson, Maag, McCarthy, Jones, Wagnon, McCoy and Kemper.

Dillingham recognized that our chair, Judge Tacha, was absent due to visiting family to tend to her new grandmother duties. He also welcomed Chuck Curtis and Mary Cohen as a new members of the board. Curtis is recently retired from Valentine Radford Advertising Agency, an M.U. graduate and originally from St. Louis. Cohen is the wife of Bart Cohen, a founding member of this Board of Trustees and who lobbied members of Congress to get the enabling legislation passed. She is Regional Representative for the US Department of Education.

Dillingham inquired about Bill Tempel, recommended by Congressman Skelton, as a potential new member who visited the board meeting in April. Billings reported that she has had communication with Tempel but that he will be out of town until mid-June and has not as yet committed to board membership.

Charles Clark gave a brief presentation about the history of the building we were meeting in and also of the Territorial period and its many governors and constitutions. There was good related discussion.

Clark moved acceptance of minutes of the past two meetings. With a second by Breidenthal, the motion passed.

Dunfield reviewed the April Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement. There was a recommendation that we keep in mind an audit in the future which will be required by some potential donors.

Billings provided the latest fundraising report. A proposal made to the Kemper Foundation was not on their April agenda as expected, so it will be late July before we hear from them. On the list for submitting proposals are the Baehr and Roman Foundations in Paola that have been recommended by Gibson. There was discussion of administrative change at the Hall Foundation and timing of making a request there. Registration with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation Donor Edge program and the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) with the federal government in order to receive federal money are underway. Nearly $1,000 has been collectively donated by
seven different entities in Humboldt, KS, showing a very grassroots commitment to FFNHA.

Dillingham reported that the day after last month’s meeting he, Tacha and Billings made a trip to Jefferson City to meet with Governor Blunt and Lt. Governor Peter Kinder and received a good reception to FFNHA information provided. Kinder recommended a presentation requesting an appropriate match to the KDOC financial contribution to the next Missouri Tourism Board which he chairs. That meeting has yet to be set. Dillingham also announced that Governor Blunt had appointed a MO Civil War Commission and funded it at $200,000.

OLD BUSINESS

There was discussion of the proposed contract with DMI to manage FFNHA. Three points with recommendations for clarification/change were made: 1) In #2 (a) i, list and define the “services rendered” with a specific $$ figure attached; 2) In #2 (a) ii, use a different description of federal government connection with FFNHA such as “to include but not be limited to” instead of the word “interface”; and 3) in #6, indicate termination of thirty (30) days instead of ninety (90) days. A motion by Mike Gibson with a second by __________ was made to approve the agreement in spirit with future clarification in the three areas. Motion passed.

Billings updated the board on progress of the management plan process by sharing the draft vision and mission as well as the proposed themes to be discussed at the Partnership Team meeting on Thursday, May 8. Curtis shared his experience with this type of work and suggested that themes be tested in the public because often the group doing the work is too close to it to see any pitfalls.

NEW BUSINESS

Billings reported an opportunity to partner with other heritage areas under the banner of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas to do an Economic Impact of Heritage Tourism Study this summer. There is no charge for the study; however, grassroots sites and volunteers will be asked to survey visitors with the survey tool provided. All agreed that this would be a good baseline for measurement of FFNHA work in the future.

Billings also proposed that FFNHA institute an Enewsletter by contracting with Constant Contact for a non-profit fee of less than $300 annually. She reminded the board that she has been authorized for these types of expenditures but wanted approval of the concept which she readily received. In response to her request for information that might be included in an Enewsletter, the following suggestions were made:
*fundraising information – both opportunities and gifts made
*ideas for kids programs
*information on other heritage areas around the country
*grant opportunities
*event of the month both current and historically
*a “good ideas” corner…”news to use”
*opportunity for questions from small sites and communities
*new projects/programming in the area
*featured stories submitted by partners on a rotative basis

It was suggested that we meet at Brown vs Board of Education NPS site in Topeka on Tuesday, June 3. Northern invited the board to Quindaro on July 8 provided the overlook project is complete. Suggestions are welcome for the meeting scheduled for August 12.

Meeting adjourned with thanks to Charles Clark for making arrangements with Shawnee Indian Mission.
The June 3, 2008 meeting of Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area Board of Trustees meeting was cancelled.
Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, July 8, 2008  
Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site  
Topeka, Kansas

The meeting was called to order by Judge Tacha. Present were Gibson, Dunfield, Clark, Maag, Jones and Billings. Absent were Arter, Balderson, Dillingham, McCarthy, Wagnon, McCoy, Cohen, Curtis and Kemper. Julie Lenger was introduced as the heritage area coordinator hired by the professional management planning team and working out of the Lawrence CVB office. Dennis Vasquez, Superintendent of Brown v Board site was host and guest at the meeting.

Vasquez welcomed the group and talked briefly about his extensive experience with the National Park Service. This includes management planning experience which he offered to share as we move through the rest of the year of developing a planning document to guide the organization forward. He announced the event, to be held at his site in cooperation with the Richie House, “On the Path to Freedom” on July 25th and 26th commemorating the 150th anniversary of a Topeka Underground Railroad flight to freedom.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Dunfield reviewed the June Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement. Discussion turned to fundraising. Billings provided the latest fundraising report. The Kemper Foundation application was unsuccessful and a disappointment. Tacha reiterated the importance of continuing to press forward. Charles Clark will work with Jody Craig at MARC to set up a meeting with the Hall Foundation in Kansas City. He will also check on the Dunn Family Foundation. Tacha and Billings will talk with Judge Paddock of the Rice Foundation in Lawrence. Billings still has some proposals to write, including the Baehr and Roman Foundations in Paola, as well as competing the DonorEdge registration. The Central Contractor Registration (CCR) with the federal government has been completed. Dillingham reported to Billings that he has had contact with Lt. Governor Peter Kinder and will continue to follow up to get FFNHA on the Missouri Tourism Council agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

The Agreement for Services between FFNHA and DMI of Lawrence was reviewed as amended by Billings from suggestions made at the May meeting. Billings reminded the group that the finances referred to in the agreement would be negotiated annually.
Charles Clark moved acceptance and Charles Jones seconded. Motion passed. Tacha will sign and the agreement will be taken to the DMI board for its acceptance.

Clark and Northern attended the Partnership Team meeting held in Independence, MO in June. Clark reported his observations of the meeting and the progress being made on the management plan. He said that there are new people at many of the monthly meetings and that he observed frustration as a result. There is work being done to provide “Heritage Area 101” information on the website as well as in written form for the purpose of orientation. He reported that there is confusion over governance. The discussion at the Partnership Team meeting revolved around who makes decisions and how. There is a need to make decisions on pieces of management planning so as to move the discussions to the next level. With so many new people coming in, there’s a question of whether decisions are simply made by who’s in attendance or whether there’s some method by which one gets a vote. This issue is highly emotional and has not been resolved at the Partnership Team level.

The board agreed that it does not see itself as the decision-maker at this level. Its responsibility will come when it receives the completed planning document and a decision needs to be made on what recommendations can be funded in the future. Board bylaws and corporate papers will be posted on the website to clarify for the public the board’s role in this emerging organization.

Board members were invited to attend the Partnership Team meeting on Thursday, July 10 to be held in Baldwin City. The topic to be discussed is how we authenticate our stories.

NEW BUSINESS

Tacha announced that she had spoken with the organizers of Symphony in the Flint Hills about a collaboration in 2010, the year immediately prior to the Sesquicentennial of the Beginning of the Civil War in 2011. The idea would be to focus the music on the pre-Civil-War/Civil War time period with FFNHA providing narrative to accompany the music. The event organizers expressed enthusiasm for the idea. Tacha will write their Board of Directors to formally suggest the idea.

The meeting adjourned with thanks to Dennis Vasquez for his hospitality. The next meeting will be held on August 12 in the Judge’s chambers in Lawrence. An invitation to meet at Quindaro still stands for sometime in the fall.
Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, September 16, 2008  
Judge Tacha’s Chambers  
Lawrence, Kansas

The meeting was called to order by Judge Tacha. Present were Dunfield, Clark, Maag, Jones, Balderson, Dillingham, Breidenthal, McCarthy, Northern, McCoy, Curtis and Billings. Absent were Arter, Gibson, Wagnon, Cohen, and Kemper.

Tacha recognized Emanuel Northern for the work he has done on the Quindaro Ruins site in Kansas City, Kansas. Tacha, Dunfield and Billings attended the dedication and celebration of the Overlook Structure on Saturday, September 13. She spoke of the diversity of supporters of the site and the dedication of Northern who was recognized time and again during the ceremony. The site is a part of the Network to Freedom program of the National Park Service. The program for the ceremony contained a comprehensive history of the site. The board will meet at Quindaro in October for a first-hand experience.

Dillingham moved with a second by Dunfield to approve minutes of the July meeting.

Billings reported progress on management planning. The Statement of National Significance as agreed to by the Partnership Team was circulated. Charles Clark was recognized for his assistance in bringing it to a one-page document. This will be the foundation from which heritage work is done in the future since it articulates the themes under which stories will be interpreted.

Phase I of discovery is complete and consultants are beginning to draft the segment plans. These plans will be circulated to the board as well as committees of the Partnership Team and Steering Committee via email for input prior to posting on the website for public input. Billings shared the “triangle” concept that she has been asking the consultants to work from in merging all the information for the final plan. The goal is to make this plan user friendly, inviting and empowering. The business segment of the plan will come directly to the board for its input prior to circulation elsewhere.

Charles Clark made the observation that the board should be intimately involved in this process since it will be expected to see that the plan is carried out once approved. Board members were asked to be prepared to engage in this process of review in the next few weeks.
Dunfield raised the issue of an email communication between consultants and Billings that they intended to approach NPS at a higher level than our direct contact there. Billings had made it quite clear to consultants that this is not the way we want our business conducted with NPS. All agreed that Tacha should write a letter to Sue Pridemore, Midwest Heritage Area Coordinator, thanking her for her outstanding assistance in this process with a copy to her immediate superior as well as to the Regional Director.

Discussion turned to fundraising. It was reiterated that the Kemper Foundation application was unsuccessful and a disappointment. Dillingham suggested that we not take “no” for an answer but continue to pursue by making another appointment to visit with them about it. He will take the lead. Charles Clark, Jody Craig and Billings met with the Hall Foundation. In the meantime, Tacha had a conversation with Bill Hall, President of the Foundation. Before sending a formal proposal Tacha, Charles Clark and Chuck Curtis committed themselves to meet with Bill Hall.

Billings reminded the board that she had made an earmark request through the Kansas and Missouri Congressional delegation in March for the 2009 budget. Since Congress is in a continuing resolution with regard to that budget along with all the issues in Congress, there is no word as yet. Billings will call on the delegation on September 25 when she is in Washington. McCarthy agreed to contact Senator McCaskill regarding her opposition to earmarks and see how she might otherwise find funding. She also reported a conference call with other heritage areas and the National Park Service coordinator for Heritage Areas regarding a performance-based formula that is being proposed for future federal funding. While the issue is very complicated, it is a request from Congress and will be worked out for the 2010 federal budget process.

Maag asked if there is an opportunity to apply again to the KS Department of Commerce. Billings will check on it. He also suggested that we might return to the Capitol Federal Foundation which he will pursue. Dillingham suggested a request to Rick Hughes, President of the KC Convention & Visitors Association. He and Billings had met with Hughes to brief him resulting in the opportunity for FFNHA to participate in a familiarization tour in conjunction with Travel Media Showcase, a national convention held in KC in early September. Dillingham suggests an ask for financial investment which he and Billings will pursue.

There was discussion about a fundraising plan. Chuck Curtis offered to chair a committee that will draft a plan for consideration at the next meeting. Jim Maag, George Breidenthal, Elly McCoy and Tacha agreed to serve. Balderson suggested that a strategy for requesting investment from city/county governments be included. Balderson also agreed to make requests in his area especially from those who have contributed in formative stages. Dillingham suggested we ask MO Lt. Governor Kinder to co-sign a
letter with Marci Bennett, St. Joseph CVB Director and member of the MO Tourism Commission, to request funding from the 12 MO cities/counties/CVBs in the area.

Tacha wrote a letter to the MO and KS athletic directors to request that FFNHA information be put in the football program for the Arrowhead game. There was no response. Dillingham suggested a contact with Drew Jennings, former interim KU Athletic Director, might find success. Breidenthal suggested that another avenue might be the NWMO State/KS Pittsburgh State football game that is played at Arrowhead annually.

Under new business there was discussion regarding active board membership. While there was an excellent turnout at this meeting, it was suggested that the full board meet quarterly with work done in between by committees. Besides the Development Committee just formed and chaired by Chuck Curtis, others suggested were executive, finance and management planning oversight committees. Tacha agreed to work on this concept and make recommendations to the board.

The next meeting will be held at the Quindaro Overlook site at 3pm on Tuesday, October 14th. Future meetings are to be determined depending on committee assignments.

Meeting adjourned.
After touring the Quindaro Overlook, the group toured the Vernon Center. Tacha congratulated Emanuel Northern for the work he has done on the Quindaro Ruins site. The site is a part of the Network to Freedom program of the National Park Service and holds an important story in FFNHA.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Tacha. Present were, Clark, Cohen, Gibson, Maag, Dillingham, Breidenthal, McCarthy, Northern, Curtis and Billings. Absent were Arter, Dunfield, Jones, McCoy, Balderson, Wagnon, and Kemper. Frank Martin, a member of the contracted management team, was a guest.

Dillingham moved with a second by Northern to approve minutes of the September meeting.

Billings reported that board member, Clark Balderson and his company in Wamego, New Dymax, Inc. had contributed $5,000 at last month’s meeting. This is the only change in the financial position.

Chuck Curtis presented a Development Plan with SWOT analysis that prompted much discussion about fundraising and the need for a consistent “sound bite” message to communicate the work of the heritage area. Discussion centered on reaching potential large donors to convey the message. Mary Cohen offered to host a luncheon for potential donors at her home where her extensive collection of Kansas art would be of interest. Dillingham offered to host a series of luncheons at the Golden Ox. Mary Cohen committed to asking Jonathan Kemper to host a luncheon at Commerce Bank and Karen McCarthy will set up a meeting for Tacha and Senator McCaskill while she is back in the area in November.

There was further discussion about how to reach a larger group of smaller potential donors much like the Kansas City Zoo does its fundraising. Tacha asked that Curtis work with Cohen, Breidenthal and Maag to develop this strategy for consideration at the next meeting.

Billings reported that she had met with the principles of Wide Awake Films, a Kansas City film production company that co-produced with KCPT “Bad Blood”, a documentary
on the Border War. Wide Awake Films focuses on history and has worked with another heritage area to develop a video for the purpose of fundraising. The board agreed to receive a presentation/proposal from Wide Awake at the next meeting.

Billings reported that she made a trip to Washington DC for another purpose but incorporated a report on FFNHA in the meetings with the Congressional delegation. They continue to be very supportive and noted that they are operating on a continuing resolution budget which means that the earmark request made in March is delayed.

Frank Martin reported on the work of the contracted management planning team. He is a cultural geographer and landscape architect and has been working on the “Power of Place” segment of the plan. He described the area and its sites and stories with an analogy of a quilt or woven basket where each piece comes together to make the whole. He will facilitate the Partnership Team meeting to be held on Thursday at the Territorial Capitol historic site on Fort Riley. The topic of the meeting is a continuation of last month’s discussion of landscape as it relates to our political and cultural stories.

Tacha appointed Charles Clark, Mike Gibson, and Jim Maag to an Administrative and Planning Committee. The immediate responsibility is to review the business plan segment of the overall planning document. Other segments of the plan are being reviewed by the Partnership Team’s Steering Committee and will come to the board after vetting by that group.

Mike Gibson announced that the Kansas State University History Department is forming a new organization that will have archive capability that may have some value to FFNHA. He will set up a meeting with them to explore a potential partnership.

The next meeting will be held at a place to be determined either at Wide Awake Film Studios or a nearby location at 3pm on Tuesday, November 11th. Future meetings are to be determined depending on committee assignments.

Meeting adjourned.