

LINCOLN LEGACY COMMITTEE
Robeson Meeting Room C
CHAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY
200 WEST GREEN STREET
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS
4:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY May 15, 2024.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:35

2. Roll Call: Members present were: Barb Wysocki, Kay Grabow, Ray Cunningham, Eric Thorsland, Adele Suslick, Barb Oehlschlaeger-Garvey. Pat Cain was absent because of plumbing issues at home. Kamryn Suttinger emailed and said she could not attend. Kamryn was invited to send a representative to the meeting and was once again asked to visit the courthouse. The committee expressed its condolences to Barb Wysocki on the death of her husband Dwain Bergren, local geologist, historian, and community advocate.

3. Approval of Agenda/Addendum/Addenda. Eric Thorsland moved for the agenda for the meeting of May 15 to be approved. Barb Wysocki seconded. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes for meeting April 3, 2024. Kay Grabow moved for the minutes of the April 3, 2024, meeting to be approved. Adele Suslick seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Participation-there was no public participation.

6. Old Business:

A. No school tours since the last meeting on April 3, 2024.

B. Museum Network Barb Wysocki reported on the museum network meeting. From that meeting (bulleted below)

- The Archives is hosting Kevin Woods, Lincoln interpreter, who will present on June 14 in English. He'll also present the same program in Spanish and in French.
- The Archives is going to revive the Archives Bazaar. A day-long celebration of local collections in institutions is usually held in October.
- The Archives will also be celebrating the 170th anniversary of the Illinois Central Railroad. The U of I Alumni association has joined the museum network.
- They are going to do an exhibit at the Campbell Center about NCSA in the fall. WCIA does spots on the Early Morning Show and is creating space for local cultural events. We might use this to promote our Kansas-Nebraska Act event. Kay Grabow said Matthew White might be the one to contact.
- Network would like to approach MTD because MTD has become interested in doing community service type shuttles. Possibly museum days could be arranged. Ray Cunningham noted that the MTD will be facilitating an African American trail tour possibly around Juneteenth.

- Barb Wysocki volunteered the LLC for the October rotation of the Inside Out article. Kansas Nebraska Act celebration.
- Barb Wysocki said that they would like a year-end report from each institution for the Museum Network. Barb O-G said she would create a year-end report to the County Board about our activities this year.

C. Status report on Kansas Nebraska Act commemoration:

Steve Beckett has agreed to moderate the program. Barb Wysocki has been including him on the emails between Barb O-G and herself. The Half-Century Club is still being considered as a partner but hasn't met yet.

Barb O-G stated she thought we should go ahead and do our program regardless of the status of the Half-Century Club's commemoration.

Barb Wysocki submitted a memo to the sheriff, chief judge, and building and grounds supervisor about our plans. They all said that they supported our effort. Barb has a lead on a musical group that can play period music, a group that Jeanette McCollum is involved in who might participate in the program. We need to determine whether we can have a talk in the jury room or another space that would accommodate the public. Wreath laying might be at the end of the program.

Barb O-G suggested that we might be able to get UI Band students if Barb Wysocki's contact falls through.

Barb Wysocki would like to get several people: Roaa Al-Heeti (Barb O-G will ask), Greg Knott (Ray will ask), a high school student (Barb O-G will work on) and one other person.

Barb Wysocki asked if the chief judge should be the person to lay the wreath. We agreed.

Adele asked how the information of this committee is archived. Barb O-G responded that all agendas and minutes are kept by the County Board as we are an official committee of the board. Other ephemeral materials are collected by the Champaign County Historical Archives.

Barb O-G stated that she is working on 81 x 33 banners for the Kansas-Nebraska event and hoped to have mockups to show the group by the meeting at the end of July.

D. 2026 commemoration

Barb Wysocki noted that the State of North Dakota is opening the Theodore Roosevelt presidential library. We don't have any movement locally yet.

E. Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area report

Barb O-G reported that Pat Cain would be writing school curriculum for the ALNHA's Underground Railroad Exhibit. He has also applied for the Archives to have the exhibit in 2026, if the Urbana Free Library has room. Barb O-G would like to have the committee collaborate with him to ensure that the exhibit comes to the CU Area, even if we must help find another venue. Barb O-G continues to work on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to create signs for the ALNHA.

F. Suggested new members

Barb Wysocki has not yet contacted Bernie Feeney. Barb O-G did hear from Krista Gray of the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections, and she suggested an intern who would join the committee. LLC Committee members approved of this. Barb O-G will get back to Krista hopefully before the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Barb O-G announced our next meeting would be on July 31, 2024, in the Champaign Public Library. She verified that members would be present for that meeting so that we did not have to reschedule.

7. New Business: No new business was discussed.

8. Adjournment; Ray Cunningham moved to adjourn. Kay Grabow seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.