

Burlington Iowa Friends Of The Depot
P.O. Box 26
Burlington, Iowa 52601

Meeting Minutes

Don Traman – Chairman

Place	Date	Time	Note Taker	Attendance
RonDavoo	8/3/2017	7:00PM	Sharon Fangman	13

Don Traman called the meeting to order and Sharon Fangman read the minutes and gave the treasurer's report.

Lois Traman made motion to approve as read and Gretchen Walls seconded the motion. Approved by voice vote.

Sharon read two letters from out of state supporters sent with their donation to express how much the renovation and preservation of the depot means to them. The two support letters led to a lengthy and spirited discussion regarding the overwhelming support for the depot from the public and business and the lack of support from the city.

The Economic Development Board approved the money to "white box" Griens. The council voted to proceed as it would be necessary for any future tenant. An amendment was added to cut the funds to \$120,000.00. Nothing has been done, and now the city wants to wait until a signed lease is in place before proceeding. No one will sign a lease only to find out they are saddled with any cost overruns.

Many questions were brought up we need answers to. Among them:

After a \$750,000.00 reno why are we facing such opposition to finish phase 1?
When the Historical Grant application was sent to Don and Sharon to review why were the errors we pointed out never corrected? We lost the grant 2 yrs in a row.
Who gave Nick Macgregor the authority to tell us we couldn't have a display area for historic depot artifacts when the money was donated for it?
Why hasn't a rental fee for the great room been developed?
The Big question we need answered is does this place matter? Yes or No.

We concluded Friends of the Depot will continue to represent all those who have donated to the renovation whether it is \$5.00 or \$50,000.00 because to us this place does matter. We decided it is time to have a meeting with the powers that be with the city and have them explain to us and donors why the sabotage.

Gretchen Walls made motion to adjourn and Cheryl Lotz seconded.