

MEETING RECORD

Perkins Eastman
Architects DPC

Date Prepared	3/12/2021; Revision 1	
Project Name	Illinois Veterans Home Quincy, New buildings and campus rehab	
Project Number	USDVA # 17-051; IL CDB #040-010-115, PE #77550.00	
Subject	Section B Item 3 Historic Preservation within the USDVA federal reimbursement grant checklist, and Memorandum of Understanding	
Meeting Location	Virtual TEAMS	
Meeting Date	2/22/2021	
Prepared By	Ramu Ramachandran	r.ramachandran@perkinseastman.com
	T: 312-873-6262	F: Fax Number
Participants	USDVA-SVHCGP: ---Alec Bennett, Senior Historic Preservation Specialist IDVA: ---Gwen Diehl, Illinois SVH coordinator ---Connie Watson, IL grants administration, document coordination CDB: ---Chris MacGibbon and Melissa Porter, Project Managers Perkins Eastman: ---Ramu Ramachandran, Project manager Bridging team for A/E HPZS ---Henry Zimoch	

1. Roles and responsibilities:

- a. Alec introduced himself as a Senior Historic Preservation officer with the USDVA. He supports the State Veterans Homes Construction Grant Program (SVHCGP), and works closely with Liz Yo (assigned as Illinois coordinator), Christine Modovsky (Environmental compliance).
- b. He works on a number of projects for the USDVA, and this support for the SVHCGP is one of his roles.
- c. He confirmed we had gathered on this call to discuss the process for the B.3 checklist items.

2. Past efforts and coordination:

- a. He mentioned that around April 2020, he had had a conversation related to the Hammond Hall with Illinois CDB and DVA, and Illinois State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO's) Anthony Rubano where he had presented an overview of the different environmental and preservation federal requirements on federally funded projects.

- b. For the Quincy rehab project No. 17-051, he had recently seen and reviewed on 'max.gov', the reimbursement forms exchange site, two uploads from Illinois' Connie Watson – the Feb 2019 cover letter from the Illinois SHPO regarding eligibility to list buildings on campus with the National Register, and the 'MOA' Memorandum of Agreement between Illinois SHPO-CDB-DVA.

3. MOA:

- a. He mentioned that the state MOA was quite extensive in its requirements. He mentioned that the state MOA had asked for a great deal of information that would capture the important information about the buildings.
- b. He could see the federal MOA either absorbing, adapting or using this language. He said other consulting parties may be able to observe the great work being done and valuable information captured in that document for the mitigation.
- c. He noted that while the executed MOA was an Illinois state inter-agency document, a separate MOA would be needed for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act ('NHPA').
- d. (In a related conversation, it is simply noted here for reference that IL SHPO had explained that Illinois Historic Preservation law is referred to as Section 707, while the Federal law is referred to as Section 106 of the NHPA).
- e. The MOA would be signed most likely by Anna Gaug, program Director for the SVHCGP, along with IL SHPO.
- f. IL DVA would be a signatory as IL SHPO has required them to be. IL CDB does not need to be a signatory, and have accepted this.
- g. The consulting process would determine if other parties need to be signatories or just have consulting interest.

4. Coordination with IL SHPO:

- a. Alec explained that he would have to expand the conversation to help get the federal MOA to the level of execution.
- b. He would need discussions with Illinois SHPO's Anthony Rubano about roles and responsibilities in following NHPA's Section 106 process. He obtained CDB-DVA's approval for him to contact IL SHPO and continue discussions.

5. Steps to execute a federal Sec 106 MOA:

- a. He saw a few steps similar to the state MOA.
- b. Identify consulting parties in coordination with IL SHPO. These could include local governmental or historic preservation entities suggested by the IL SHPO.
- c. USDVA would contact federally recognized Indian tribes that have signaled an interest in this project. (There is one tribe that has signaled an interest in any USDVA development in any of the states where they had ancestral interest.)
- d. He mentioned needing to get an acceptance from the ACHP, an independent federal agency acting with advisory capacity. He mentioned very good relationships, frequent contacts between him and ACHP, and mentioned they would understand the need for timely responses.

6. HABS progress:

- a. Ramu noted that the HABS reports on the buildings intended for demolition are 95% complete, field pictures have been taken. IL SHPO has determined that they cannot officially "accept" these until the federal MOA authorizes them to do so. The state MOA is no longer valid and the federal MOA will need to replace it. The HPZS team will continue their work to complete the draft write ups.
- b. The IL SHPO could/may start a review if the USDVA clearly indicates their authority to do so in the draft MOA.

- 7. Alec helped conclude the call. He noted the emergency nature of the project and the need to expedite actions, and the Illinois teams efforts to meet June funding target dates. Ramu appreciated the guidance shared by Alec and attention to the details, and shared the following next steps.

8. Next steps:

- a. Per a request from Alec, Ramu at PE would organize a follow up call between Alec at the USDVA and the IL SHPO.
- b. The CDB and DVA both requested PE to keep notes from the call and circulate to the team subsequently.
- c. For reference, it has since been decided between IL SHPO and USDVA that the USDVA will start consulting outreach, and take the lead in drafting the historic preservation MOA.
- d. Alec to help evaluate a delegation of HABS review to IL SHPO.

9. Other/miscellaneous notes:

- a. Conversations related to this topic between agencies have also resulted in the following parallel steps.
- b. Alec initiated an idea that the Illinois CDB-DVA's independent IVHQ water main project also be referenced into the USDVA consultation outreach letters for 17-051 larger IVHQ rehab project. It seemed expeditious as it involved the same campus and similar land footprints. The CDB and DVA both had no objections to the idea. Alec would consider and make a final choice on this.
- c. Gwen shared that the water tower on campus is most likely going to be dismantled as part of the CDB and DVA.
 - i. CDB shared that the IL SHPO most likely would need a HABS on the water tower.
 - ii. PE will reach out to HPZS to initiate a proposal on adding the water tower to the HABS reports.
- d. USDVA had initiated contact with all federally recognized Indian tribes across the nation in 2020 about the priority list of projects for the country. The Osage tribe in the Midwest was the only one that responded with interest in any USDVA projects in any state of interest to them.

cc: All participants,
Perkins Eastman Bridging team, GSG Environmental engineers.
SVHCGP – Liz Yo

Attachments: None