

**2010 Missouri Certified Local Government Forum
Small Group Discussion Summaries**

1. PARTNERSHIPS: How do the various groups in your community, including local government departments, work together to engage the public and further historic preservation goals?

Keep moving on, no matter the losses, celebrate the wins
Strong historic preservation ordinance with review process (teeth)
Develop local historic preservation education program
Call Bill Hart, Missouri Preservation, for preservation programs
Tourism—need to partner with communities in our vicinity and network via website
Use social networking—facebook, twitter, etc.
People complaining, don't know about events—big problem
Walking tours during Historic Preservation Month
Walking tours—Historic Spaces, Hidden Places
Lee's Summit—Lady's Night Out, each shop has special drawing for prizes
Excelsior Springs, Jefferson City, Lee's Summit, Florissant, Cape Girardeau: Façade improvements—different cities approach it differently as we heard this morning, another approach—line of credit. Partnerships: Involve other groups to sponsor festivals, special events—recurring festivals for example, brings people to enjoy preservation—walking tours and festivals. All have volunteer community organizations. Greatest strengths: Volunteers, individuals interested in investing money, others who invest personal services in these projects. Suggestions: Information presented at this yearly meeting needs to be available to city councils, chambers of commerce, etc. Most important: Don't be discouraged, take baby steps, don't get disheartened when everyone doesn't understand. Partnerships: Independence—working ordinance & commission to implement it, Joplin—communication between HP groups, Lee's Summit—preserving property values and increasing awareness, Kansas City—Neighborhoods with active participants. Suggestions for improving local hp program: Joplin—education, correcting rumors, etc., Independence—increasing awareness of hp commission and what its goals are, Lee's Summit—education, support to commission, Kansas City—enforcement.
City of Grandview sent out color flyers to owners in Historic and Conservation Districts, HPC chair used to draft letters, city staff sent out flyer for first time this month, historic district has been featured in city's newsletter. They used to have a big festival/parade, "Harry's Hay Days" but are having locational difficulties. City web site has info about historic district design guidelines.
Arrow Rock—"Big 6" organizations meet each month—Friends of Arrow Rock, Historic AR Council, Merchants Assoc., Town Board, Theater, State Park. They have had a facilitator come out for a brainstorming session, ideas for session included regular meetings. 6 delegates go back to their organizations to report. Design Guidelines—really good, used a consultant from Texas, hired by the Town.
In Grandview, the development of guidelines was guided by homeowners.

Warrensburg—working on defining district(s), visibility, newspaper does stories, Main Street Assoc. & Chamber of Commerce, hopefully the organizations dovetail!

2. CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL: Is your community making plans to commemorate the Civil War Sesquicentennial? What activities are planned? Which groups are working on this?

Sesquicentennial: Missouri Civil War Foundation is working on signage along major corridors, goal is to get people off the highway. Lexington is having a re-enactment in conjunction with the State Historic Site festival events. Smaller groups are coming together on this event. Boonville is having a civil war component with other 2010 events to lead up to 2011.

3. HERITAGE TOURISM: Which organizations or agencies in your community work to promote/support heritage tourism? What activities are available for visitors? How does heritage tourism help in preservation of your local historic resources?

Heritage Tourism: Lexington has a Tourism Bureau. In Arrow Rock, the Big 6 group focuses on marketing tourism—billboards, ads, brochures—each group pays in \$1800/year, each group is all volunteer, groups raise funds through membership fees, festival revenues, general fund, contributions. State Park donates only \$500 to buy brochures. In Rocheport, there is one organization for merchants and a separate organization for B&Bs—need more coordination!

Importance of State assets: State Parks or state sponsored events are a key asset—put on events the city could not do, take care of campsites.

Walking and driving tours: Arrow Rock has a walking and driving tour that is in the brochure so even in the winter when places are closed, you can at least see places (brochure includes events, merchants, etc.). Warrensburg has talked about doing a podcast driving/walking tour. Heritage tourism is very layered, organizations get bigger and bigger as you go up.

Regional Partnerships: Booneslick Area Tourism Council coordinates 3 counties to promote each other. Old Trails Regional Tourism Partnership ties together Boonville up to Lexington on a scenic byway—working on a local foods tour.

Heritage Tourism Discussion Group (Representatives from Jefferson City, Boonville, Ozark, Ste. Genevieve, Lee’s Summit, Grandview, Lexington)

	<u>Organization/Agencies</u>	<u>Activities</u>
Jefferson City	MS Prison, public/private dev. group Habitat for Humanity	MSP dev. planned with new access through blighted area where Habitat will

		help. Have i-pod tour of downtown.
Boonville	HPC & City use tourism money Frederick Hotel & B&Bs	Resurvey of NR properties & coop advertising with historic buildings as big draw.
Ozark	HPC & City trying to get people off Hwy 65 between Springfield & Branson	Developing Finley River area through town with riverwalk & community center
Ste. Genevieve	City has tourism tax & Main St. Program plus active chamber	French architecture & related activities are main draw.
Lee's Summit	Lot of groups sort of work together.	Big preservation week with activities such as walking tours.
Grandview	Truman Home is affiliated with Truman Library, but weak effort	Trying to get yearly festival & farmers market going.
Lexington	Active tourism commission & Chamber & Community Betterment, plus Battle of Lexington SHS, coordinate new Old Trails Regional Tourism Partnership, coordinating from Independence to Boonville & Freedom's Frontier Heritage Area developing (Lawrence, KS to Lexington)	Annual home tours, reenactments, cemetery tours, bus tours, etc.

How Heritage Tourism Helps Preservation:

Brings interest in historic properties (community pride, new residents)

Brings money used in preservation (from shops, B&Bs, etc.)

Brings talent to communities, sometimes used in preservation (most HPC members are not native residents)