

RESOLUTION FORMING THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL
COMMISSION OF McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President, was one of the Nation's most prominent leaders, demonstrating true courage during the Civil War, one of the greatest crises in the nation's history; and,

WHEREAS, Born of humble roots in February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln rose to political prominence as a lawyer practicing in and near McLean County, Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, with the support of McLean County, Illinois citizens such as the Honorable Judge David Davis, Abraham Lincoln was elected President through a legacy of honesty, integrity, intelligence, and commitment to the United States; and,

WHEREAS, with the belief that all men were created equal, Abraham Lincoln led the effort to free all slaves in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln gave the ultimate sacrifice for the country Lincoln loved, dying from an assassin's bullet on April 15, 1865; and,

WHEREAS, All Americans could benefit from studying the life of Abraham Lincoln, for Lincoln's life is a model for accomplishing the "American Dream" through honesty, integrity, loyalty, and a lifetime of education; and,

AND WHEREAS, The year 2009 will be the bicentennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and a local commission should be established to coordinate and encourage civic organizations' activities that are fitting and proper to celebrate that anniversary in a manner that appropriately honors Abraham Lincoln.

BE IT RESOLVED, this 18th day of July, 2006 that here is established a commission to be known as the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission of McLean County, Illinois (referred to in this resolution as the "Commission").

Further BE IT RESOLVED, that, the Commission shall have the following duties:

- (1) To study activities that may be carried out by civic organizations and to encourage activities that are fitting and proper to honor Abraham Lincoln leading up to and on the occasion of the bicentennial anniversary of Lincoln's birth,
- (2) To assist civic organizations in coordinating activities that the Commission considers fitting and proper to honor Abraham Lincoln during the aforementioned period,

- (3) To assist civic organizations in coordinating such aforementioned activities with local government entities which may have permit, authorization or other oversight upon performance of said activities

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Commission Membership shall be comprised of the following .

- (a) Appointment.--The Commission shall be composed of members as appointed as follows:
 - (1) members whom shall be a private citizen of McLean County with a demonstrated dedication to educating others about the importance of historical figures and events; and substantial knowledge and appreciation of Abraham Lincoln, as appointed by and with the concurrence of the Chairman of the McLean County Board, the Mayor of Bloomington and the Mayor of Normal.
 - (2) members whom shall represent civic organizations of McLean County which have demonstrated dedication to educating others about the importance of historical figures and events, as appointed by and with the concurrence of the Chairman of the McLean County Board, the Mayor of Bloomington and the Mayor of Normal.
- (b) Terms.--Each member shall be appointed for the life of the Commission and serve at the discretion of said Chairman & Mayors. New members may be appointed in the same manner in which the original appointments were made.
- (c) Remuneration and Expenses.--Members shall serve on the Commission without remuneration or reimbursement for personal expenses.
- (d) Quorum.--Five members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold meetings.
- (e) Chair.--The Commission shall select a Chair from among the members of the Commission.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the County of McLean, City of Bloomington and Town of Normal, shall, on a rotating basis, provide a staff representative to coordinate and obtain meeting locations, provide meeting notices and Commission communications, review Commission proposals which require local governmental permits or authorizations, and provide administrative support services as are required to hold Commission Meetings.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Commission will be empowered for the purpose of carrying out this resolution, hold such meetings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Commission may submit to the local governments such reports as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Commission shall terminate on December 31, 2009.

Michael Sweeney, Chairman
McLean County Board

Chris Koos, Mayor
Town of Normal

Steve Stockton, Mayor
City of Bloomington

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