Historical Society Seeks Partnership with City

(KNZA)--The Brown County Historical Society is looking into ways to maintain the mission of the Francis Sewell Plamann History Center into the future.

Historical Society Director Eric Oldham met with the Hiawatha City Commission Tuesday evening begin discussions with the city to see if there's a way they can work together.

Funding from the Francis Sewell Plamann Charitable Trust paid for renovation of the building for the purpose of displaying historical artifacts and for use as City Hall. Oldham says the Historical Society has been fulfilling that mission by bringing in historical exhibits and programming since 2010.

Currently, the Historical Society receives a stipend from the Trust that used to cover a portion of the director's salary. The city also receives an annual distribution from the Trust to help pay for the operation and upkeep of the building. However, Oldham says that money will be going away in 2017 under a Trust agreement.

Commissioner Bill Collins, who served as acting mayor at the meeting, said the city wants to work with the Historical Society and suggested a work session be set up.

Many Signals Communications