

**KALAMAZOO HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**March 14, 2006
Third Floor Conference Room
241 W. South St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007**

Members Present: Chris Wright; Norman Jung; Erin Seaverson; Derl Oberlin; Claire Milne; Linda Bennett
City Commission liaison: Barb Miller

Members Absent: Josh Willson

City Staff: Sharon Ferraro, Historic Preservation Coordinator
Karleen Steppenwolf, Records Coordinator

Call To Order

Ms. Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

Approval Of Absences

Ms. Milne, supported by Mr. Oberlin, moved to excuse the absence of Josh Willson from the March 14, 2006 HPC meeting. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda

Correction to the Agenda on item IX.B – It should read “Invite O’Connor Fund donors” not “Invite K:L&F donors to Great Unveiling”

Add item under IX.G. Iannelli Fountain – meeting called by city manager for last week in March.

Mr. Wright, supported by Mr. Oberlin moved to approve the March 14, 2006 agenda. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Page 2 Under citizen comments – add “Iannelli” before “fountain.

Page 3 under Committee reports, 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence – add “public” so sentence reads “Ms. Milne had some information on how to run a public meeting effectively.”

Mr. Oberlin, supported by Mr. Jung, moved to approve the February 14, 2006 minutes. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Introduction Of Guests

Pam O'Connor – former commissioner
Susan McCormick

Citizen Comments

Pam O'Connor had some comments on the new agenda item IX-G (She will be leaving after her K:L&F report and before this item is discussed) Ms. O'Connor stated that she had a phone conversation with David Jameson and invited him to come to Kalamazoo and address the city commission on April 3rd on the history of Alfonso Iannelli and his work. Mr. Jameson was very complimented, but declined, as it is very difficult for him to make public speeches. He advised to stick to the history and take politics out of the issue. Ms. O'Connor also commented on the list of Preservation Award nominees and reminds the commission that Southwest Builders, nominated as an individual for their work throughout the downtown, has received an award already for the Style Shop project specifically. In comment in agenda item IX-B she suggested we send an invitation to O'Connor Fund donors for the Great Unveiling itself on May 6th and to the May 13th ceremony at noon.

Correspondence

Thank you and official receipt from the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the \$500 donation to the Michigan Preservation Fund; also from NTHP acknowledging our paid gift subscriptions to city commissioners and City planner Keith Hernandez. .

Financial Report

City: Missing SUMMARY page.

O'Connor Fund: The fund is within \$1500 of \$100,000.

Lost and Found Book Project: Ms. O'Connor reported \$800 in income for book sales in January and February and the addition of a new retailers – the Kalamazoo Antiques Mall on North Edwards and additional books ordered by Oakwood Pharmacy. Ms. O'Connor also reported that all the accounts for the calendar have been reconciled with \$2000 in sales against \$2900 in costs. The 2006 calendar lost money. A discussion followed on how to distribute the remaining calendars.

Mr. Wright, supported by Mr. Jung, made a motion to distribute the remaining calendars to the graduating class of Loy Norrix High School (Since the school is one of the photos on the calendar, to other interested parties at KPS, to the WMU Local History program and to Sharon to distribute to the Community Planning and Development staff. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. O'Connor also noted that two retailers, Heritage Company and Wild Goose Chase, have overdue invoices. She requested that a duplicate invoice be mailed with a short cover letter asking for payment.

IX. Action Items

A) Affirm decision to donate one hardcover of Kalamazoo: Lost and Found to Kazoo School for charity auction

After an email discussion in late February, the commissioners agreed to make this donation to the Kazoo School auction.

Mr. Oberlin, supported by Ms. Milne, moved to donate a hardcover copy of Kalamazoo: Lost and Found to Kazoo School for their charity auction. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

B) Invite K:L&F donors to Great Unveiling (during work on May 6 or at formal ceremony on May 13th at noon?)

After some discussion it was decided to invite all the local donors to both the Unveiling itself on May 6th and the official ceremony on May 13th. Ms. Ferraro will design a postcard before the next meeting and get the mailing list from Ms. O'Connor.

C) Local historic district study committee report – Ms. Ferraro reported that the reports are done and will be mailed to the Study Committee members on Thursday, March 16th for the Study Committee meeting on Thursday March 23rd. Ms. Ferraro reviewed the process of establishing the new districts including review by the Planning Commission, the State Historic Preservation Review Board, the State Historic Preservation Office and the Michigan Historical Commission followed by a public hearing, with final approval from the city commission. Ms. Ferraro hopes that the entire process can be wound up by the end of the year.

D) Report on HDC training – The training on February 21st went very well with 30 attendees from Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Allegan and Holland. The commission would like to repeat the training in 2008 since we will have a large turnover in HDC and HPC that year.

E) Report on Chris Wrights meeting with Library – Chris reported a very productive meeting with Beth Timmerman of the Kalamazoo Public Library on March 1st, with the idea of making more preservation related and “How-to” rehabilitation books

available. KPL was very enthusiastic about acquiring books, but cannot consider videos until summer.

F) Report of Preservation Awards nominees – in packets. The commission decided to aim for the May 15th City Commission meeting to present awards.

Committee Reports

None

City Reports

1. Ms. Ferraro also reported that the City Manager office was arranging the ad hoc committee about the Fountain of the Pioneers petition for the last week in March. At the March 13th City Commission meeting, it was announced during “Citizen comments on Non-Agenda Items” that a protest would be held in Bronson Park on Monday April 3rd before the City Commission work-study meeting in the Community Room. Ms. Ferraro also reported that she had been told that the Chamber of Commerce is no longer participating in the petition goal.
2. Site Watch list – in packets

Commissioner Comments

Guest Susan McCormick spoke, which began a discussion of the Iannelli Fountain/Fountain of the Pioneers. She stated that she was married to Tom Brown, a member of the Delaware nation and one of the originators of the petition. She brought up the European-American mistreatment of the Native Americans and the fact that over the four years of her marriage, she had learned a great deal about those injustices and was outraged. The commission engaged in discussion with her about the fountain and the mound in Bronson Park. The commission voiced its strong opinion that the fountain and sculpture should stay as they are with the addition of interpretive materials on the artistic intent of Alfonso Iannelli and Kalamazoo’s art community of the late 1930s, and the history of the Potawatomi in southwestern Michigan. The commission also voiced support for additional sculpture in the park to add to the interpretation and bring the Potawatomi presence into the park.

Adjournment

Ms. Bennett adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
March 14, 2006
Page 5 of 5

Submitted by (Karleen Steppenwolf)

Reviewed by (Sharon Ferraro)

Approved by (Linda Bennett)