

**KALAMAZOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Third Floor Conference Room – City Hall – 241 West South**  
**Tuesday, December 11, 2012 – 7:00 pm**

**MEETING NOTES**

- I. Call to Order – 7:10 pm**
- II. Approval of Absences:** Katie Jacobs, David Brose - joined us at 7:30 (Approve absence LS/TH)
- III. Approval of Agenda:** underlined items added
- IV. Introduction of Guests:** Christine Ballard (FOHEC), Amy Thomas, Pam O'Connor, Jack Urban (Kalamazoo County Public Arts Commission) and John Johnson (Edison Nd + Parks & Rec board+WMU)
- V. Citizen Comments on NON-agenda items\***
- VI. Financial Report**
- a. City (Jacobs/Steppenwolf) **(ITEM A)**
  - b. O'Connor Fund Report **(ITEM B)**
  - c. Official vote to adopt budget as submitted **(ITEM C - budget)**
    - i. Move to approve 2013 budget as submitted (CA/CW)
- VII. Action and Discussion Items**
- a. Work Plan Reports from Team Leaders
    - Designation (D) – Aardema **(ITEM D)**
    - ii. Sustainability (S) – Stevens (Hidden Kalamazoo) Saw space above Studio Grille – very enthusiastic owner. Meeting with Sandra Gilman above A-1 to see 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, will see 5/3 Bank building on 15<sup>th</sup> floor, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 10-11am. Subcommittee should meet and evaluate after this round of tours.
    - iii. Preservation Month (PM) – Holewinski Call for nominations for preservation awards will go out in early January.
    - iv. Iannelli Fountain (IF) – Brose David has met with a fundraiser, and a proposal went to the National Trust for a grant. NTHP has funded \$5,000 for a fundraising feasibility study. Local donor, NTHP and HPC have each committed \$5000. We have a draft proposal to identify a study. Hope to have the proposal ready for the city by end of this week. We have received the notice and agreement from the National Trust. We have a Midwest foundation that is VERY interested in funding the fountain rehab. (Check if I cc'd David and Pam on Royce Yeater email) David, Pam and Sharon met with KCF and determined that they could hold the funds if there was an endowment component. This is an important piece of the fundraising plan. (Commitment of an unimpeachable organization to hold the money) David has met with the Kalamazoo County Public Arts Commission for a representative to serve on our fountain subcommittee. Jack Urban clarified that the appointment will take place by the end of the year – with a representative and an alternate. Pam and David are scheduling a meeting with Mayor Hopewell. Pam brought HPC up to date on the National Register nomination for the fountain, finding new information on Iannelli as one of America's earliest modernist artists with lots of evidence to support that claim. Pam has requested an appointment with Tim Samuelson, historian of the city of Chicago, who is putting together an exhibit on Iannelli for Chicago. Pam will propose bringing the exhibition to Kalamazoo.
    - v. Operations (O) – Wright - Chris sent email to Jeff Chamberlain to ask for an appointment to meet with HPC.
    - vi. Sites – Aardema **(ITEM D)** Aardema – proposed bond request for Kalamazoo Public Schools Discussed meeting at Woodward in January and possibly at Washington elementary in April.

**VIII. Old/New Business**

**IX. Approval of meeting notes:** October 9, 2012 **(ITEM E)** no meeting on 11/13/12

LT/CA approved with changing the David Brose absence as approved.

**X. Correspondence** (to-do SRF) Prepare memo to accept Stucki foundation & NTHP grant for City commission (done 12/20/12)

**XI. Coordinators Reports on non-agenda items**

- a. Site Watch & Issues **(ITEM F)**
- b. Presentations – on issues – photos and drawings
  - i. 820 Oak – devastating fire – Saturday morning December 1, 2012 – HDC app for demolition
  - ii. Woodward School – presentation of plans
  - iii. Peninsula building billboard presentation

**XII. Citizen Comments on NON-agenda items\***

**Pam** – NTHP discussion about possible loss of Federal HP tax credit. Nancy Finegood and lobbyists and NTHP are concerned about the possible loss of Federal tax credit. Two pronged strategy – met with Fred Upton – had a successful tax credit tour and set up a tour with Rep. Dave Camp (Ways and Means) hope to get an invitation to talk to staff of the committee. Also sending a mayor’s letter to a number of mayors to sign on to a letter witnessing for tax credits. There may be opportunities for comments from local preservationists – Pam will keep us apprised.

WMU and recent developments – WMU plans to demolish three of the four hilltop buildings. HPC was instrumental in nominating East Campus to National Register. It is very isolated today and Western seems unable to understand the importance of their historic resources. These buildings are an important part of WMU’s history as well as the city of Kalamazoo. Mothballing is cheaper than demolition – to tear down these buildings and discard them is the most ridiculous and anti-sustainable approach. The city of Kalamazoo gave the land to the university.

Very active discussion of alternate approaches to save buildings and/or have a say in redevelopment. WMU needs to open up with the community and have a more transparent process.

**XIII. Commissioner Comments**

**DB/CW Motion to adjourn – passed unanimously**

**Adjourn 9:25 PM**