

**KALAMAZOO HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
COMMISSION MINUTES
DRAFT, NOT YET
APPROVED BY HPC**

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

Members Present: Chris Wright; Norman Jung; Erin Seaverson;
Linda Bennett; Josh Willson; Derl Oberlin

Members Absent:

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

Call To Order

Mr. Willson called the meeting.

Approval Of Absences

Agenda

Ms. O'Connor wanted to add discussion of the Iannelli Fountain to the agenda as IX 9.

Minutes

Correction on page 2, Barbara Miller was present as a City Commissioner guest not Mary Balkema.

Mr. Oberlin, supported by Mr. Jung, moved to approve the October 10, 2006 minutes as amended. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Introduction Of Guests

Pam O'Connor – former commissioner
Barbara Miller – City Commissioner

Citizen Comments

Ms. O'Connor discussed the KCPA leadership survey regarding the downtown preservation planning publication. Ms. O'Connor inquired if this item could be put on next month's agenda for possible financial support from the commission.

Ms. Seaverson, supported by Ms. Milne, moved to put discussion of the downtown preservation planning publication on next month's agenda. Will a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Included in packets.

Financial Report

City: could not get current report because of Eden conversion.

O'Connor Fund: a quarterly report was included in packets. The fund has received \$525 in gifts.

Lost and Found Book Project: this report was sent via email to the board members.

Action Items

- A) Water Tower: The Bureau of History of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries currently holds title to the water tower. The Bureau wants to State of transfer ownership to an appropriate local entity. Ms. Ferraro will be scheduling a meeting early to mid December to discuss the transfer. Ms. Ferraro will get a list of invitees to offer opinions. If the HPC board thinks of any other ideas please email them to Ms. Ferraro.
- B) RFP for 100 block of E. Michigan: there were tours of the properties for six developers, which Ms. Seaverson attended. She stated that the conditions were bad due to no lights, water or heat. There was some water damage, but most of the basements were dry. The buildings are being sold together and not as separate units.
- C) Iannelli Fountain: There are more studies to come. Ms. O'Connor sent out grant applications for the Johanna Favrot Fund administered by the Midwest Office of the National Trust for Historic preservation and the Michigan Historic Preservation Network's Preservation Services Fund to the board to review. Mr. Jung reviewed the Johanna Favrot fund grant and stated that he felt the controversy surrounding the fountain might make a grant application unlikely to be funded. Ms Ferraro will check into the requirements/ rules of the grant. Ms.

Ferraro will keep the commission up to date on the study and money available. February 2007 is the deadline for grants.

Committee Reports

Ms. Milne did research on several cities that have an established Downtown Design Review Committee (DDRC). Ms. Milne stated that DDRC's are fairly new in all cities. Cities that are successful made it an open process. The code/standards need to be in the Zoning Ordinance Code. Mr. Willson, Ms. Seaverson and Ms. Milne will get together to discuss the proposed changes.

Publicity Committee: Ms. Ferraro's intern has looked over the walking tour brochure and did not have any major changes.

City Reports

In packets.

Old House Expo realtor workshop will take place Friday, January 19 and the Expo will be Saturday, January 20, 2007.

Commissioner Comments

Ms. Ferraro is involved in the Lead Safe Work Practices Program with Kalamazoo County.

Citizen Comments

A new venue for the Kalamazoo Symphony was discussed. Comments regarding the State Theatre were shared.

Adjournment

Ms. Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by (Karleen Steppenwolf)

Reviewed by (Sharon Ferraro)

Approved by (Linda Bennett)