

**KALAMAZOO HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**December 12, 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; Claire Milne

Members Absent:

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

Call To Order

Ms. Bennett called the meeting.

Approval Of Absences

Agenda

Ms. Milne wanted to add the DDRC Guideline Subcommittee report as item X.A. and discussion regarding the State Theatre as item XI.3.

Mr. Jung, supported by Ms. Milne, moved to amend the December 12, 2006 agenda. With a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

The corrections were on page one to include Claire Milne as member present and page two under action items letter A the second sentence was corrected.

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

Introduction Of Guests

Pam O'Connor – former commissioner

Citizen Comments

None.

Correspondence

Ms. Ferraro included correspondence in the packets about with the Dave Evans/Michigan Architectural Foundation/Clannad Foundation fund information.

Financial Report

City: \$4 profit.

O'Connor Fund: Ms. O'Connor stated there has been a nice stream of donations coming in since the fund appeal mailing in early November. The donations are around \$1,085.00.

Lost and Found Book Project: in packets. Ms. O'Connor has a book signing scheduled with Barnes & Noble on December 24.

Action Items

- A) Downtown Preservation Plan: Ms. O'Connor and the Kalamazoo County Preservation Alliance have been working on a plan for the downtown emphasizing historic preservation. The Alliance felt that the preservation component was noticeably missing from the Another Bold Idea vision plan Ms. O'Connor will be looking for support from the commission at a later date.
- B) State Hospital Water Tower: The CLG grant application needs to be postmarked by 12/15/06. Ms. Bennett signed the required letter of support for the grant application.

Mr. Wright, supported by Mr. Oberlin, moved to support the application for a grant of \$21,800 to perform a condition assessment. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

- C) Iannelli Fountain: The commission supports the application for the Johanna Favrot Fund grant. Ms. Ferraro doesn't think that the controversy about the fountain will affect the grant.

Mr. Wright, supported by Ms. Seaverson, moved to support the Johanna Favrot Fund grant application to perform further assessments on the Iannelli Fountain. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jung has been attending the Iannelli Fountain meetings. Mr. Jung was sworn to secrecy not to discuss information about the meetings. The secrecy agreement

was made among the members of the ad hoc committee. The meetings are not open to the public. Mr. Jung did state that progress is being made.

The HPC is very concerned about losing this work of art. Ms. O'Connor is very upset about the decision to keep the meetings confidential. Ms. O'Connor does not feel it is right not to be able to share information with the committee you are representing. The fountain is public property and everyone in the city has a stake in its future. Ms. O'Connor will be sending emails to the City Manager, Commissioner Barbara Miller and the Co-Chairs Ron Coleman and Bobby Hopewell. The HPC will be sending letters and emails to the same individuals stating their concerns as well. The HPC also appointed Josh Willson as an alternate person to attend the ad hoc committee meetings if Mr. Jung cannot attend.

- D) Expo kickoff: memo is included in packet along with the Expo flyer. The Expo will be held at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds. The HPC will have a table in the vendors hall. The HPC offered to donate \$500 toward the preparation of the Expo from the 2006 budget.

Mr. Oberlin, supported by Mr. Willson moved to donate \$500.00 from the 2006 budget for preparations for the 2007 Expo. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

- E) Demolition Ordinance: this item has been put on the back burner for the moment, but the Department of Community Planning and Development will keep moving on it.
- F) Lead Removal: memo in packet. Ms. Ferraro is involved in this project with Kalamazoo County. They are looking for a house to do a lead removal demonstration on. Ms. Ferraro stated she might ask the HPC for a symbolic contribution at a later date.

Committee Reports

Ms. Milne spoke regarding the recommendations that the committee had come up with to forward to the DDRC. Ms. Milne, Ms. Seaverson and Mr. Wright have prepared a packet of research and recommendations to submit. A directional cover letter will be prepared and if the HPC has any other suggestions they are to forward those to the committee members.

City Reports

Ms. Ferraro received an email stating that the Convention Bureau and the Visitors Center are splitting. They were enquiring about the walking brochures.

Bids for the 100 block of E. Michigan had to be submitted by December 13, 2006. This topic will be put on next month's agenda.

The realtor's course will not happen at the 2007 Expo. Instructors cannot get accredited in time to teach the classes. Ms. Ferraro will try again in 2008.

The State Theater will not be used for the new venue for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.

Commissioner Comments

The HPC still needs a person to replace Mr. Oberlin when his term expires in March 2007.

Citizen Comments

Ms. O'Connor talked about the Randolph School Preservation Trades Pilot Program in Detroit. She stated it is a good educational project for high school students that have fallen through the cracks.

Ms. O'Connor also shared a report of the updated version of the 2001 Economic Benefits of Preservation in Michigan from the Michigan Historic preservation Network.

Adjournment

Ms. Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by (Karleen Steppenwolf)

Reviewed by (Sharon Ferraro)

Approved by (Linda Bennett)