

KALAMAZOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Third Floor Conference Room – City Hall - 241 West South
Tuesday, February 12, 2013 – 7:00 pm

- I. **Call to Order – 7:00 pm**
- II. **Approval of Absences:**
- III. **Approval of Agenda:**
- IV. **Introduction of Guests:**
- V. **Citizen Comments on NON-agenda items***
- VI. **Financial Report**
 - a. City (Jacobs/Steppenwolf) **(ITEM A)**
 - b. Kalamazoo: Lost and Found
 - c. O’Connor Fund **(ITEM B)**
- VII. **Action and Discussion Items**
 - a. Work Plan Reports from Team Leaders
 - i. Designation (D) – Aardema
 - ii. Sustainability (S) – Stevens (Hidden Kalamazoo) **(ITEM C)**
 - iii. Preservation Month (PM) – Holewinski
 - iv. Iannelli Fountain (IF) – Brose **(ITEM D)**
 - v. Operations (O) – Wright **(ITEM E)**
 - vi. Sites – Aardema
- VIII. **Old/New Business**
 - a. Election of Officers
 - b. Workplan update
- IX. **Approval of meeting notes:** December 11, 2012 **(ITEM F)**
- X. **Correspondence**
- XI. **Coordinators Reports on non-agenda items**
 - a. Coordinator’s Report **(ITEM G)**
 - b. DRAFT annual report for City Commission – comment and revise **(ITEM H)**
- XII. Citizen Comments on NON-agenda items***
- XIII. **Commissioner Comments** **Adjourn 9:00 PM**

The mission of the Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission is to educate the public and city leaders on the value of preserving the City’s historic resources, and to advise the City Commission accordingly. Questions and comments regarding this agenda should be directed to the Historic Preservation Coordinator at 337-8804. *The Commission’s Work Plan is on the reverse side.

* Citizen Comments are limited to four minutes on non-agenda items. During agenda items, citizens are also requested to limit their comments to four minutes unless invited to join in the discussion by the Commission.

Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission goals for 2012

PRESERVATION MONTH 2013 Leader: Tony Holewinski

GOAL: Present a diverse variety of events to celebrate Preservation Month in May

1. Steering committee to develop activities
2. Schedule & complete events
3. Activities & Budget approved by HPC
4. Preservation awards committee to decide awards
5. List of events & schedules publicized
6. Work schedules & volunteers confirmed
7. Post Preservation Month debrief presented to HPC

FOUNTAIN OF THE PIONEERS Leader: David Brose **HIGHEST PRIORITY**

GOAL: Restoration of the Fountain of the Pioneers by 2015.

- ~~1. Identify General Contractor to lead project.~~
- ~~2. Inaugurate meeting with Indian Bands locally for historic markers~~
3. Submit PRESERVE AMERICA application
4. Create city/tribal/private sector sub-committee for planning & executing the restoration project: 2012
5. Submit full (art & local history) NATIONAL level NRHP nomination to SHPO 2013
6. Develop Friends of the Fountain Committee to lead & secure lead gifts 2013
7. Register solicitation license and implement tiered public fund raising 2014

DESIGNATION Leader: Curt Aardema

GOAL: Add to LHD and National Register designated properties to aid development & protect resources.

1. Create formal process for owners interested in local or national designation
2. Invite eligible property owners annually to consider designation

LOCAL DESIGNATION

- Isaac Brown House - single resource LHD
- Woodside properties (2) added to the WMHLHD
- Park Club*
- State Theater
*Pending

NATIONAL REGISTER DESIGNATION

- Updated Bronson Park NR HD (outside of FOTP)
- Updated East Campus NR HD to include Oakland Recital Hall and remove demolished buildings

SUSTAINABILITY Leader: Lynn Stevens

1. Identify new fund raising sources for HPC budget
2. Create subcommittee to explore options
3. Present short list of options to HPC
4. Identify a working group to explore market feasibility and budget for a product based fund-raising project
5. Provide support to oversight of the Lost & Found Book sales & O'Connor Fund for Historic Preservation.

OPERATIONS Leader: Chris Wright

1. Ensure succession plans for HPC
2. Conduct O'Connor Fund pledging in November.
3. Ensuring Quorum for monthly meetings
4. Consult with coordinator as needed about agenda items
5. Providing oversight & updates of Operational Plans monthly

SITES Leader: Curt Aardema

HISTORIC SCHOOLS

GOAL: Educate the Kalamazoo community about the significance of historic school buildings in the city.

1. Identify and list the historic school buildings in Kalamazoo.
2. Research and compile information regarding each school on the list.
3. Prioritize the list based on real and perceived threats to their continued use.
4. Establish an award program for historic milestones and proper maintenance of the buildings.
5. Develop a presentation schedule to meet with educators and students about their schools.
6. Establish a communication link with local school administrators to provide information and insight regarding historic buildings in Kalamazoo.

**Historic Preservation Commission
February 2013 Monthly Report**

Revenue

Book Fund	\$	52,992.73
Interest Income	\$	(98.48)
Interest on Investments		
Total Revenue	\$	52,894.25

Expenses

Commissioner Education	\$	1,941.89
O'Connor Fund	\$	1,212.80
Memberships	\$	1,306.00
Public Education	\$	28,276.38
Publications	\$	14,024.49
Miscellaneous	\$	1,397.67
Total Expenses	\$	48,159.23
Ending Working Capital	(as of 2/4/13)	\$ 4,735.02



**Historic Preservation
Revenue Ledger**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
	BOOK SALES	\$19,617.64	
2010	BOOK SALES	\$ 5,446.04	
1/12/2011	Book Sales - Barnes & Noble	\$ 281.70	
5/18/2011	book sales - Michigan News Agency	\$ 209.70	will be abated-was rebilled at lower cost*
6/23/2011	HPC awards - Mueller Enterprises	\$ 220.00	
6/29/2011	Book Sales - Nature Connection	\$ 144.96	
6/29/2011	Book Sales - Michigan News Agency	\$ 161.70	*
7/31/2011	Book Sales - \$95.88 - \$209.70 =	\$ (113.82)	
11/2/2011	Book Sales - Kazoo Books	\$ 200.70	
12/31/2011	Book Sales - Kazoo Books	\$ 161.70	
12/31/2011	book sales - Michigan News Agency	\$ 129.36	
12/31/2011	Book Sales - Heritage Co.	\$ 152.76	
3/28/2012	Book Sales - The Spirit of Kalamazoo	\$ 113.19	
5/29/2012	Mavcon Properties contribution	\$ 5,000.00	
5/29/2012	Now & Then, LLC	\$ 32.34	
6/6/2012	Michigan News Agency	\$ 129.36	
6/27/2012	The Nature Connection	\$ 144.96	
8/22/2012	Book Sales - The Spirit of Kalamazoo	\$ 129.36	
9/5/2012	book sales - Michigan News Agency	\$113.19	
9/20/2012	Book Sales - Barnes & Noble	\$ 160.56	
10/3/2012	Book Sales - Barnes & Noble	\$ 92.82	
10/17/2012	Book Sales - Barnes & Noble	\$ 4.20	
10/12/2012	Book Sales - Now & Then	\$ 16.17	
12/12/2012	Book Sales - The Nature Connection	\$ 144.96	
12/19/2012	Book Sales - Kazoo Books	\$ 144.96	
12/20/2012	Book Sales - Now & Then	\$ 32.34	
1/4/2013	Book Sales - Pam O'Connor	\$ 31.96	
1/30/2013	Book Sales - Barnes & Noble	\$ 192.90	

1/30/2013 Book Sales - Kalamazoo Antiques	\$	160.56
Totals		\$33,256.27

**Commissioner Education
2012**

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Commissioner Education - NTHP,
MHPN, State HP

2012 Budget
\$0.00

Expenses

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	Commissioner Education	\$ 968.87
2010	Commissioner Education	\$ 20.00
8/26/2011	MHPN renew memberships	\$ 250.00
11/22/2011	Katie Jacobs - reimburse for NTHP membership	\$ 20.00
	Total	\$ 1,258.87

**O'Connor Fund
2012**

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O'Connor Fund **2012 Budget**
 For Appeal Costs \$600.00

Expenses

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	Appeal costs	341.43
2010	Appeal costs	\$ 153.40
11/22/2011	Terry O'Connor - reimburse postage	275.00
11/22/2011	Chris Wright - reimburse pizza for fund appeal	56.71
12/21/2011	Katie Jacobs - reimburse for supplies	227.86
11/15/2012	Tony Holewinski - reimburse for supplies	158.40
	Total	\$ 1,212.80

**Memberships
2012**

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Memberships - NTHP, HPC

2012 Budget
\$500.00

Expenses

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	Memberships	\$ 492.00
2010	Memberships	\$ 125.00
2/17/2012	NTHP Membership - David Brose	\$20.00
4/17/2012	NTHP membership gifts	\$140.00
	Total	\$ 953.00

**Publications/Promotion
2012**

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	2012 Budget
Promotion	\$ 200.00
Consultants - Fulfillment, Marketing and Royalty	

Expenses

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	Publications	\$7,223.91
2010	Publications	\$3,552.49
7/7/2011	Pamela O'Connor	\$146.25
12/31/2011	Pamela O'Connor - 2nd printing Royalties	\$302.02
12/31/2011	Lynn Houghton - 2nd Printing Royalties	\$302.02
12/31/2011	Pamela O'Connor - marketing	\$57.05
6/30/2012	Pamela O'Connor - marketing	\$247.95
12/31/2012	Pamela O'Connor - marketing	\$177.64
12/31/2012	Pamela O'Connor - 2nd printing Royalties	\$181.41
12/31/2012	Lynn Houghton - 2nd printing Royalties	\$181.41
	Total	\$12,372.15



151 S. Rose St., Suite 332
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Phone 269.381.4416

For **good.** For **ever.**sm

***Fund Activity Statement
O'Connor Fund for Historic
Preservation in the City of
Kalamazoo
January 1, 2012 through
December 31, 2012***

Beginning Fund Value **\$ 131,044.72**

<u><i>Principal</i></u>			
Beginning Principal Value		\$	126,953.21
<u>Additions:</u>			
Gifts	\$	5,273.06	
Net Investment Return		19,553.98	
Other Additions/Adjustments		0.00	24,827.04
<u>Distributions:</u>			
Annual Transfer to Grantmaking			(5,368.92)
Foundation Annual Administrative Fee			0.00
Ending Principal Value		\$	146,411.33

<u><i>Grantmaking</i></u>			
Beginning Grantmaking Value		\$	4,091.51
<u>Additions:</u>			
Gifts	\$	0.00	
Annual Transfer from Principal		5,368.92	
Other Additions/Adjustments		0.00	5,368.92
<u>Distributions:</u>			
Grants Approved		0.00	
Foundation Annual Administrative Fee		(1,006.67)	
Other Distributions/Adjustments		0.00	(1,006.67)
Ending Grantmaking Value		\$	8,453.76

Ending Fund Value **\$ 154,865.09**



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***Fund Activity Statement
O'Connor Fund for Historic
Preservation in the City of
Kalamazoo (Master)
January 1, 2012 through
December 31, 2012***

Beginning Fund Value \$ **143,131.13**

<u><i>Principal</i></u>			
Beginning Principal Value		\$	138,596.52
<u>Additions:</u>			
Gifts	\$	5,273.06	
Net Investment Return		21,347.36	
Other Additions/Adjustments		0.00	26,620.42
<u>Distributions:</u>			
Annual Transfer to Grantmaking			(5,912.30)
Foundation Annual Administrative Fee			0.00
Ending Principal Value		\$	159,304.64

<u><i>Grantmaking</i></u>			
Beginning Grantmaking Value		\$	4,534.61
<u>Additions:</u>			
Gifts	\$	0.00	
Annual Transfer from Principal		5,912.30	
Other Additions/Adjustments		0.00	5,912.30
<u>Distributions:</u>			
Grants Approved		0.00	
Foundation Annual Administrative Fee		(1,103.07)	
Other Distributions/Adjustments		0.00	(1,103.07)
Ending Grantmaking Value		\$	9,343.84

Ending Fund Value \$ **168,648.48**

Sustainability: Lynn Stevens

HPC meeting February 12, 2013

HIDDEN KALAMAZOO – Progress Report

The Hidden Kalamazoo tour committee met Jan. 31 and decided to break the project into three divisions. We'd like all commissioners to participate in one of the three.

They are: Publicity, Sponsorship and Operations.

Publicity will deal with social media, posters/flyers and tickets. This group will try to secure photos of the buildings we're touring at early points in their existence. Those may be blown up and put in the windows of the buildings in advance of the tour, if the building owners are willing, or on the evening before.

Sponsorship will deal with more than convincing businesses to donate operating funds. It also will try to work out arrangements with the Downtown Restaurant Association or individual restaurant owners to offer discounts such as \$1-off entrees or a free cup of coffee for people holding tour tickets.

Operations will cover the nuts and bolts of making the sites clean and as accessible as possible. Their work will include getting volunteers, such as teams of students from WMU for a March clean-up where the building owner requests it, recruiting volunteer docents and exploring dressing at least one docent per site in period-appropriate attire. That could range from 1920s for the State Theater to the 1970s for Studio Grill to the 1890s for Petals & Postings.

Obviously there will be some overlap as we get closer to the tour date, June 15 and 16. That's why it's really important to have all commissioners involved.

Also, Sharon Ferraro suggested creating souvenir postcards to sell. Bill Dyer has agreed to photograph the interiors in black and white. They could be printed on 11 x 17 inch card stock. Sharon assured us that hand tinting is very easy and we could add that ourselves. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Studio Grill.

Iannelli Fountain: David Brose

HPC meeting February 12, 2013

February 2013 report

Here's a brief report from the Chair of the Iannelli Work Group:

On Thursday, February 7, I'll be meeting with John Shagonoby, Lisa Brock and David Artley [new County Arts Commissioner and County representative to the City's Iannelli Fountain Committee]. I'll be bringing them up to speed on our grant and fund-raising progress and I'll report back to the HPC on Tuesday.

Suffice it to say, things are accelerating. So, I think it would be important for the entire commission and it's FOTP Committee members to review the attached proposed agenda for discussion with our potential consultant for the grant-required fund-raising feasibility study and let me know if they have ideas or time to contribute both to the proposed initial discussion and, more importantly, to the month we will have to line up and interview potential donors.

OPERATIONS: Chris Wright

HPC meeting February 12, 2013

February 2013 KHPC operation report

I spoke to a few more people about becoming a member of the preservation commission but no luck as of yet. Please if you can get the word out, and remember in April we will also have to find a replacement for Katie Jacobs who will be leaving us at the end of March.

As to the election of officers in the upcoming meeting anyone interested please feel free to step forward. But as it stands right now with the commission's approval both Curt and I would be willing to service chair and vice chair again.

As to the meeting with Jeff Chamberlain and the city planner Curt and I spoke for about an hour and a half. You got them up to speed about what we are doing and some of our history. We also spoke to them about the KHPC willing to help relieve Sharon of the some of the workload and some of what we have done already. They were also interested in meeting with us again in four months. Curt and I will discuss this further during the KHPC meeting.

KALAMAZOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Library – Woodward School for Technology and Research – 606 Stuart Avenue
Tuesday, January 8, 2013 – 7:00 pm

MEETING NOTES

- I. **Call to Order – 7:00 pm**
- II. **Approval of Absences:** None
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved
- IV. **Introduction of Guests:** Amy Thomas, Rodger Parzyck, Ursula Zerilli (MLive), Norman Jung
- V. **Citizen Comments on NON-agenda items***
 - a. RP We need to push for a moratorium on demolition, a phased plan for redevelopment
 - b. DB – as chair of FOHEC a letter is being prepared to present to the trustees, since they are the ones that will be making the decisions and can change the current plan.
 - c. CW - would it be beneficial for the HPC to send a letter to the City Commission to support an effort to save East Campus
 - d. **DB/TH Move that the HPC write a letter of concern to the city commission expressing concern for the loss of economic potential of the East Campus buildings. Passed unanimously**
- VI. **Financial Report**
 - a. City (Jacobs/Steppenwolf) No change from December
 - b. Kalamazoo: Lost and Found – end of year report
 - c. O'Connor Fund – correction of “spendable” amount
- VII. **Action and Discussion Items**
 - a. Work Plan Reports from Team Leaders
 - i. Designation (D) – Aardema No current report – Washington Square is moving forward. A meeting is being set up with Edison Nd. The HPC should also pursue Brown House designation
 - ii. Sustainability (S) – Stevens (Hidden Kalamazoo)
 - iii. Preservation Month (PM) – Holewinski
 - iv. Iannelli Fountain (IF) – Brose The RFP for the fundraising feasibility study has received two responses which will be evaluated and awarded on Thursday afternoon. Norman and David are planning on another visit with John Shagonaby and Pam and David will be meeting Mayor Hopewell next week.
 - v. Operations (O) – Wright Elections next month and planning a retreat for March. Curt and Chris will meet with Jeff Chamberlain at 4:30 on the 22nd. Chris would like to form a sub-committee to search for new members.
 - vi. Sites of concern – Aardema – East Campus, schools
- VIII. **Old/New Business**
 - a. Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy – 2013 Conference
- IX. **Approval of meeting notes:** December 11, 2012 DB/ LS Approved as presented passed unanimously
- X. **Correspondence**
- XI. **Coordinators Reports on non-agenda items**
 - a. Site Watch & Issues
 - b. Report on 4th quarter Section 106 reviews and Programmatic Agreement
- XII. Citizen Comments on NON-agenda items***
- XIII. **Commissioner Comments**

Adjourn 9:00 PM

Historic District Commission:

- ✓ HDC cases to 02/05/13 – 10 (8 Administrative)
 - In 2012, 21 cases by 02/05/12 (18 Administrative)

Section 106 reviews (Federally funded projects)

- ✓ Section 106 reviews to 02/05/13 – 10
 - In 2012, 6 reviews were complete by 02/05/12 (These 10 cases represent 5 acquisitions and 5 rehabilitations for the last of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 funds.)

SITES

- PNC (1st National Bank Building) – 108 East Michigan **NO NEWS**
- North & Douglas commercial Buildings
 - 1017-1029 West North:
 - Meeting for interested parties – January 22, 2013 – Woodward School I have not had a report on this meeting
 - 626 Douglas (former gas station):
 - The application for demolition was submitted on 01/25/13 – waiting for payment of fee
 - Old Douglas Community Center (231 East Ransom) – **NO CHANGE**
 - 820 Oak – devastating fire – Saturday morning December 1, 2012 – HDC approved demolition - The application for demolition was submitted on 01/25/13 – waiting for payment of fee

Old assessors cards are now available on the city website – some have historic photos, all have info on materials, sale price and measurements:

On the left column click on “Departments”, then click on “Assessor” then scroll down to **Link to historic assessing record cards and click on the blue text.**

http://www.kalamazoocity.org/portal/government.php?page_id=962

**CITY OF KALAMAZOO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT
2012**

Introduction

In 2012, the Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission was involved in a wide variety of projects including public education, publication, awards, historical resource surveys and rehabilitation advice.

The duties of the Historic Preservation Commission are defined in Article V of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Kalamazoo. In support of its duties, the commission undertook or continued a variety of projects in 2012:

“The commission may support and produce historical publications”:

The commission continued selling their most recent publication, Kalamazoo: Lost and Found which is in its second printing. The commission is looking for a new project that could continue to provide funds for operation.

“... inventory of historic resources within the city which, in its judgment, have such value as to warrant preservation and/or redevelopment; to publish such inventory; and to cooperate with owners of such resources in devising and carrying out appropriate means for their preservation.” And ***“The commission shall be responsible for the coordination and nomination of National Register and state register historic districts, sites and/or individual properties, and may support the creation of local historic districts”:***

1. The commission, acting as the Historic District Study Committee continues to work on materials to designate 427 South Burdick and two homes on Woodside as part of local historic districts at the request of the homeowners.
2. Washington Square – A nomination to the national Register of Historic Places for the Washington Square commercial block, from Washington to Stockbridge on Portage plus the branch library, is in the early stages of preparation.

“The commission shall encourage and promote historic preservation and educate the public on preservation wherever possible”:

1. For the thirteenth year, the HPC worked with members of the Historic District Commission to identify candidates for the HPC’s annual Preservation Awards of Merit for buildings, people and projects that promoted historic preservation in the city of Kalamazoo. The awards went to:

**a. COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL/GOVERNMENT PROPERTY
Ladies Library Association - 333 South Park**

Since its completion in 1879, the Ladies Library building has been a hub of activity in Kalamazoo, carefully updated by the Association as needs change and faithfully maintaining the historic character of the building. The Kalamazoo Ladies' Library Association is the oldest women's organization in the state, from its informal beginnings as a reading circle in the 1840s to formal incorporation in 1852. In 1878 the women began constructing a clubhouse, becoming the

first women's organization in the United States to achieve this distinction. The Ladies Library building is the third oldest building of its type in the nation.

The building was designed by Chicago architect H. L. Gay and built in 1879 by Bush and Patterson of Kalamazoo at a cost of \$9,000. The building was the first in Kalamazoo to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970. This outstanding building was listed on the Michigan Historic Register in 1961 and as a single resource local historic district in 1973.

b. RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

504 Douglas – Doris McLean

When Doris McLean acquired her first home at 411 Douglas in the early 1980s, it was one of the first owner occupied homes on the street. And it proved to be a turning point for Douglas Avenue. More homeowners moved on to Douglas and by the late 90's there was one distressed home left at 504 Douglas Ave. Doris was well into retirement age. But she was ready to take on this unique little Mansard roofed house, doing most of the work herself. Doris has devoted many years and a lot of hard work to rehabilitating historic Stuart homes.

c. RESIDENTIAL INFILL – new garage

2125 Crane – John & Jennifer Ward and About You Builders

When their garage was destroyed by a large tree, blown over in a storm Jennifer and John Ward took the opportunity to build a new garage that was more architecturally compatible with their home, the historic Crane House. The owners used a slightly larger foot print for the new garage and incorporated new uses including a bath room/changing room for pool guests, open play room for kids, and a garden/craft room for the owner. At the same time they incorporated architectural elements/finish from the main house into the design of the structure. The end result is a new structure with modern spaces that complement the scope, size and style of the house. Windows for the garden room were reclaimed from the old garage, restored by the owner and installed by the builder.

d. COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL/GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Hoben House move – formerly 1327 Academy now 304 Monroe

Built in 1927 for college president Allan Hoben, the brick house located on the southeast corner of Academy and Monroe, served as a gathering place for students and faculty, and since the late 1970s as the Stryker Center. The college received a planning grant in 2009 from the Arcus Foundation to explore founding a Center for Social Justice on campus. The study showed, in part, that the existing Hoben House and the conference facility attached to the south side, could not be modified to meet the needs of the new program, so a new building was planned.

Thus in August 2010, the college was seeking creative solutions for removing the historic home and Gary and Cheryl Kuta stepped in. In 1995, they had purchased a vacant lot across from the Hoben House, on the corner of Monroe and West South, with the intention of someday building a home on the site. Jim Van Sweden, of Kalamazoo College contacted the Kutas and the project unfolded from there, to move the Hoben house across the street. When obstacles to moving the house cropped up and it seemed like the project was doomed, the Kutas persevered, working through the challenges each time. The college and Jim Van Sweden stayed the course as well working out details and modifying plans as time went on.

Finally, in June 2011, the house began its short journey to the southwest. The move was finished easily in a day and the house sits on its new foundation, firmly grounded in the earth again.

The nomination for the Award of Merit recognizes that the extraordinary effort of Gary and Cheryl Kuta and the support and determination of Kalamazoo College to preserve an important piece of history.

e. COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL/GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Paris Cleaners – 508 West Crosstown Parkway – neon sign restoration - Wilbert and Elaine Weidenaar

For over a quarter of a century, the largest surviving neon sign in the city of Kalamazoo has been dark. Paris Cleaners massive sign, with 336 light bulbs and brilliant neon colors was restored in place last year by Modern Neon Signs. Paris Cleaners started in 1903 and moved to this location in 1956, setting up one of Kalamazoo's first drive-thru dry cleaners. In 1991, when the Weidenaars purchased the business, vandals had damaged the sign and at the time, restoration was cost-prohibitive. In the summer of 2011, they were ready to take on the project. The sign had to be repaired in place – the city sign ordinance no longer allows signs of this size on commercial buildings.

2. The Preservation Commission began a new fund-raising venture, with planning a walking tour called “Hidden Kalamazoo” The tour will explore the upper floors of five to eight yet undeveloped downtown buildings. The tour is tentatively planned for June 15th and 16th, 2013.
3. In 2012, the commission decided to occasionally hold their meetings off-site. Their first meeting was at the Lincoln International Studies School on October 2012.

“The commission shall also encourage the collection of materials illustrative of the history of Kalamazoo and encourage their deposit into public or educational institutions within the city or the state that the commission deems most suitable for their preservation and use”:

“The commission may support the inclusion of historic preservation concepts in planning and land use...”

As participants in the Programmatic Agreement between the State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the City of Kalamazoo, the HPC commented on 59 projects.

“... cooperate with owners of such (historic) resources in devising and carrying out appropriate means for their preservation...”

Fountain of the Pioneers – Bronson Park - The HPC continues to work with the Parks and Recreation Department to facilitate the rehabilitation and enhancement of the Fountain of the Pioneers (Iannelli Fountain) in Bronson Park. The Fountain subcommittee has begun working with the Kalamazoo County Public Arts Commission along with John Shagonaby, from the Gun Lake Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians.

In March 2012, plans and specifications for the rehabilitation of the fountain were complete, identifying repair costs at \$1.3 million including moving all the pumping and electrical equipment to a new underground vault to be located in the space between the two pools.

In September 2012, the HPC applied to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for a grant to help fund a fundraising feasibility study for the Fountain of the Pioneers. In December, the HPC was awarded

\$5,000 from two funds at the National Trust and an additional \$5,000 from the local Stucki Family Foundation. The HPC will pay for the feasibility study from these two grants and up to \$5,000 from its own funds.

In May, 2012, at the annual Preservation Awards ceremony, Mavcon presented the Historic Preservation Commission with a check for \$5,000 to cover the costs of preparing a nomination of the Fountain of the Pioneers to the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance.

Concerns

The HPC expressed these concerns about specific sites within the city in 2011, proposed changes to potential historic buildings and the permanent loss of two other sites:

- **East Campus of Western Michigan University** – The Historic Preservation Commission feels strongly that WMU’s announced plans to demolish three sound buildings in the heart of the original campus is pre-emptive. The buildings should be mothballed and continue to stand with the hopes that an improving economy might bring an qualified developer.
- **Loss of Noble Lodge** – The Historic Preservation Commission regrets the loss of this sound historic building.
- **Jay Rhodes Building** – 1029 West North (and three adjacent small commercial buildings) Jay Rhodes was a prolific inventor from Kalamazoo who helped shape the early automobile industry as well as providing innovative engineering solutions to help in the construction of the Panama Canal. This small neighborhood commercial block between the Stuart and Northside neighborhoods continues to deteriorate.
- **Kalamazoo Public Schools** - Kalamazoo Public Schools has proposed to study four existing historic elementary schools for upgrades. The Washington Writers Academy, Edison Elementary, Lincoln International and Woodward School for Technology and Research. The commission is concerned that sound historic buildings will be unnecessarily lost and believes that the existing historic schools could be retained as part of a vital new educational vision for these sites.

Recommendations

The HPC makes the following recommendation to the City Commission for the coming year: To address the goal of protection, the city should explore stronger demolition controls through ordinance revisions allowing historic buildings more protection and considering protection of sound, non-historic commercial buildings, especially in the central business district to maintain the city tax base.

The Historic Preservation Commission would also like to request a regular meeting, perhaps twice a year, with the City Commission to improve communication and cooperation.

Acknowledgements

The HPC wishes to thank City Manager Ken Collard and CPD Department Director Jeff Chamberlain and for their continuing support and encouragement.

Conclusion

Historic preservation is a vital part of community character, enhancing both our existing built environment and future development. Preservation has been proven nationwide to retain more development money and provide more jobs in the local area, to improve property values and to enhance the experience of living and working in the city as well as offering opportunities for the smaller scale investor and Kalamazoo is considered one of the preservation leaders in Michigan. The City of Kalamazoo can look with pride at the handsome, restored, historic buildings along East Michigan Avenue, at the steady improvement of the Stuart and Vine neighborhoods and the preservation of the

West Main Hill neighborhood. Much more of our city could be protected and should be preserved and HPC is proud to be part of that process.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Ferraro". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Sharon Ferraro
Historic Preservation Coordinator

**Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission Budget
2013 Budget**

	2011 Actual	2012 Adopted Budget	2011 Actual Budget	2013 Proposed Budget
RESOURCES				
Lost & Found Book Sales	6,800	6,400	7,950	6,400
Other		0	0	0
TOTAL RESOURCES	6,800	6,400	7,950	4,613
EXPENDITURES				
O'Connor Fund	200	200	560	600
Commissioner Education	500	500	270	0
Memberships	175	500	0	500
Public Education	4,000	4,375	2,012	3,100
Promotion/Publications	1,575	1,575	146	200
Misc	350	800	87	100
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	6,600	7,750	2,515	4,500
Revenue Over Expenditures	200	(1,350)	5,435	113