

**KALAMAZOO HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**March 13, 2007
Third Floor Conference Room
241 W. South St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007**

Members Present: Chris Wright; Norman Jung; Erin Seaverson;
Linda Bennett; Josh Willson; Claire Milne

Members Absent: Derl Oberlin

City Staff: Sharon Ferraro, Historic Preservation Coordinator

City Commission: Barbara Miller

Call To Order

Ms. Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Approval Of Absences – Mr. Jung, supported by Mr. Wright, moved to approve Mr. Oberlin’s absence. With a voice vote the motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda

Mr. Jung, supported by Mr. Willson, moved to approve the March 13th, 2007 agenda. With a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Corrections:

Page 3: the word “delivered” was deleted from the second paragraph under item b. In the next sentence the phrase “KCPA plans this to” was replaced with “ The booklet will”

Mr. Wright, supported by Mr. Jung, moved to approve the February 13th, 2007 minutes as presented. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Introduction Of Guests

Pam O’Connor – former commissioner, author of Kalamazoo: Lost and Found

Citizen Comments

Ms. O'Connor, current President of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network reported on statewide happenings related to Preservation.

- Ms. O'Connor asked for volunteers to sign up for shifts to sell Kalamazoo: Lost and Found at the Kalamazoo Symphony Homes Tour in May
- Ms. O'Connor reported on progress in writing the Preservation booklet by the Kalamazoo County Preservation Alliance
- MHPN distributed copies of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network Conference brochure. The conference will be held on Mackinac Island, May 3-5, 2007

Correspondence

Ms. Ferraro presented the letter she wrote to Scott Grinder after last month's meeting and a thank you card from MHPN for the funds donated from raffling off six copies of Kalamazoo: Lost and Found at the Old House Expo.

Financial Report

City: No comments

O'Connor Fund: No report

Lost and Found Book Project: Ms. O'Connor has added a new line to the report: "Increase from previous month"

Action Items/Discussion Items – **citizen comments on each item**

- a) Planning for Preservation Month (May)
 - i) Scrubbing Iannelli Fountain – After some discussion the commission chose Saturday May 19th to scrub the fountain. Commissioners would like this to be part of a general media release about preservation month activities which may generate more volunteers to help scrub. Ms. Ferraro will check with the Parks Department to see if using volunteers that are not part of a city appointed commission would raise any liability issues.
 - ii) Water Tower meeting – Thursday May 24th, 6:30 pm – Ms. Ferraro reports that she has reserved the Van Deusen room at the Kalamazoo Public Library. Program items may include asking Priscilla MacDougall to speak about the last fundraising effort for the tower. State Historic Preservation Officer Brian Conway has also offered to come to Kalamazoo from Lansing and speak.
 - iii) Participants in awards ceremony – The commission would like to present the Preservation Awards at the May 7th City Commission meeting. The judges will be meeting Saturday March 17th to review the nominations. The HPC will affirm the decision at their April Meeting.

Ms. Ferraro will formulate a media release for Preservation Month activities including the events above and inviting the public to participate. The slogan for this year will be "Making Preservation Work". The Preservation Month resolution is written and ready to go to the commission.

Committee Reports

- The **DDRC subcommittee** prepared materials including a cover letter and support materials. Ms. Ferraro reported that the materials were delivered to the DDRC and will be referenced when the DDRC proposes revisions.

City Reports

Ms. Ferraro presented her report to the commission. The commission asked for a verbal report on the open house for the proposed new historic districts held today. Ms. Ferraro reported that eight people took advantage of the open house. Most were in favor and six people left written comments. One landlord opposes the designation of the Stone, West Michigan, Eldred, West Lovell Triangle, but thinks the rest of the designation is fine.

Ms. Ferraro also asked if any of the commissioners were interested in attending the City Diversity event on April 16th or 17th. The speaker will be Susan Shown Harjo, a well-known speaker and poet on Native American issues. Several commissioners were interested in attending and would like to know more when the tickets are available.

Commissioner Comments

Ms. Seaverson requested that she be given excused absences for July and August.

Citizen Comments

Ms O'Connor stated that a letter she wrote to Old House Journal had been published dealing with replacement windows and stating that replacing a window was not the same as rehabbing a window.

Adjournment 9:34 pm.

Mr. Jung, supported by Ms. Milne moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 pm. By voice vote the commission unanimously passed the motion.

Submitted by (Sharon Ferraro)

Reviewed by (Sharon Ferraro)

Approved by (Linda Gentry Bennett)