

MINUTES  
OF  
MOUNT VERNON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Saturday, January 12, 2013

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Saturday, January 12, 2013. The meeting was called to order by Dick Thomas. Members present include Dick Thomas, Hugh Lifson, Pat Westerkamp, Ed Sauter, Leah Rogers, Mary Iber and Guy Booth. There were no guests. The Minutes from the meeting of December 1, 2012, upon motion made by Guy Booth and seconded by Mary Iber, were approved.

There was no design review scheduled for this meeting. Dick Thomas indicated that Ed Sauter will be the contact person for design review until we complete the restructuring of the commission. Dick will serve as the acting chairperson. Further, Leah Rodgers has agreed to help prepare the annual report.

Agenda items that were addressed include the demolition ordinance. Guy Booth reported that the City is looking at the ordinance and we expect to get a response to any objections they may have within the next 30 days.

We reviewed the proposal of Jennifer Price to do the survey of the commercial historic district. Dr. Price has submitted a proposal which includes the work to be done and the contract price of \$1,100.00. Upon motion made by Ed Sauter, seconded by Mary Iber, the proposal was accepted and she will be contracted to complete the work set forth in her proposal.

Ed Sauter gave a brief update on the work at Chameleon's. Construction on the project should start within the next several weeks. The front will be of brick construction, with the bricks coming from the old telephone building which was demolished last year.

Dick Thomas indicated that the website has been worked on by Will Klein over the Christmas break. A number of documents have been scanned in. In particular, much of the historical work on the pony bridge over the railroad tracks was scanned into the website.

Mary Iber has reported that the newspaper digitization project is close to completion. All of the papers, both from Mount Vernon and Lisbon have been prepared and should be fully digitized within the next couple of weeks. We discussed having a link to the newspapers added on to our website. A discussion regarding articles for the newspaper indicates that there are articles that are ready to be published. In addition, it was decided to have an initial article that discusses the digitization of the issues of the newspaper, along with information about the website and the links to get to the papers. Ed Sauter will review older articles that have been prepared for publication and choose six that can be sent to the Sun. Other old business included a discussion by Hugh Lifson of the picture he and Sue Hargus may be doing for Chalk the Walk. He also talked about the possibility of a presentation of the discussion of the Emancipation Proclamation and

Constitution that was presented in approximately 1864. He will search to see if he can get information about the speeches that were given at that time.

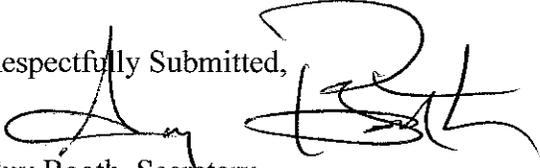
Under new business, we have determined that the Commission should look at upcoming projects and encourage community members to serve as volunteers of the projects. By doing this, we can expand the number of people who can be actively involved with Historic Preservation, without having them feel they need to formally be on the Commission. Ed Sauter will work on an article to describe the availability of volunteers and special projects.

Dick Thomas indicated that Main Street/CDG is producing promotional videos regarding the City. We have indicated we will give information regarding the historical nature of the community to help in the production of the videos.

It was indicated that we are still working on the audio tour. At this time, we are looking for grant money to help put up the pedestals that will be necessary in the identification of the buildings. Kay Johansen indicated she is willing to continue to work with this project.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is February 2, 2013 at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Guy Booth, Secretary