

MINUTES
OF
MOUNT VERNON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Saturday, February 2, 2013

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Saturday, February 2, 2013. The meeting was called to order by Dick Thomas. Present were Dick Thomas, Hugh Lifson, Ed Sauter, Leah Rogers, Mary Iber, Skip Clark and Guy Booth. There were no guests. The meetings from the meeting of December 12, 2013 were read, and upon the request for two corrections, were approved upon motion made by Ed Sauter and seconded by Skip Clark.

There were no design review requests on the agenda for this meeting.

The report regarding the demolition ordinance indicates there has been no response from the City. Guy Booth indicated he will send a copy of the ordinance to planning and zoning so they will have a chance to become familiar with it while the City is reviewing it. This may assist in moving the ordinance toward passage in a more timely manner.

Leah Rogers gave a report on the survey of the commercial historic district being conducted by Jennifer Price. Leah indicates she will be taking photographs of all of the buildings to show their current status. Dick Thomas indicated Bob Meeker will be helping Jennifer with the project. The timeline for the project should mean completion within approximately 3 months. Guy Booth will prepare a memorandum agreement between Ms. Price and HPC for our records. The memorandum agreement will recite the proposal made by Ms. Price and approved by the commission.

The next report concerned the status of the website. Luke is continuing to add materials to the website.

Ed Sauter gave a report on articles that may be ready for publication in the newspaper. There are six articles and Ed went through the articles to clear up any questions he had on the details. The first article will be a summary of the purpose and process of the Historic Preservation Commission. This should give a summary of what we have been doing in the past, and what our goals are for the future. The articles will be published in The Sun on an occasional basis. Other articles relate to painting of structures, historic porches and other topics that have been prepared.

Mary Iber indicated that the newspaper digitization project has moved toward a conclusion. All of the Mount Vernon papers will have been added to the website within the next week. There is a delay on the Lisbon papers and they will be added to the website when the digitization is done and they are ready for scanning onto the website. Mary also indicated that there has been sufficient money raised to cover the cost of the digitization project. Contributors thus far are as follows: Historic Preservation Commission - \$1,500; Mount Vernon Bank & Trust - \$1,000; Hills Bank & Trust - \$500,

Bridge Community Bank - \$75; Lisbon Library - \$100; Lisbon Historic Commission - \$200; the Dick and Deb George Foundation - \$500. The Sun has contributed \$200 in addition to all of the work necessary to have the copies of the paper available for copying. The remainder of the funds, approximately \$1,000, has come from the Cole/Mount Vernon Library.

Under old business, Hugh Lifson discussed the work that he and Sue Hargus will be doing at Chalk the Walk. This will be a picture that relates to the anniversary of the Civil War. He also discussed the history/biography of Taylor Pierce and what might be done to capture his presentation of the Declaration of Independence and the Emancipation Proclamation. This will be looked into as a project to be presented during Heritage Days.

Also under old business, it was mentioned that "no name" Creek is going to be named Hahn Creek in recognition of one of the two earliest settlers of the Mount Vernon area. The Commission agreed this would be an appropriate name.

It was reported that HPC's request for next year's budget has been accepted by the City Council.

Dick Thomas raised the issue that it may be beneficial to the Commission if we have a policy regarding people who will have planned absences from meetings. When a person for example, relocate for the winter, it would be helpful to grant them a leave of absence so it will be easier to have a quorum available for meetings. Hugh Lifson moved, and Skip Clark seconded, a motion that requests that a policy be drafted to provide that if a person plans to be absent from the Commission for a continuing two-month period, that the commissioner request a leave of absence for the period of time. The motion carried.

Dick Thomas discussed the need to organize the Commission so various people will be responsible for work that needs to be done within the Commission. This will relieve the chairperson of having to be in charge of all of the work of the Commission. Ed Sauter will be in charge of design review, Mary Iber will be in charge of the website, Leah Rogers will prepare the Annual Report and oversee grant applications, Guy Booth will continue as the secretary and will be the liaison to the City Council. Dick Thomas will continue being our overall contact for historical information, as well as continuing as the temporary chair. Others can volunteer for projects as they arise.

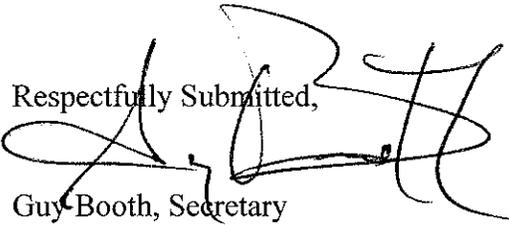
Leah announced that HRDP grant proposals are due by May 15, 2013. We may want to see if a proposal to help pay for signs for the audio tour may be appropriate.

Under new business, Hugh Lifson indicated this is the centennial year of Grand Central Station. He also indicated that the renovation of the President's house is going forward and the college has accepted our recommendations on cladding. Mary Iber indicated that Deanne Rexroat is putting together an exhibit of 50 objects of history regarding Cornell that will be on display.

The email addresses of the commissioners and relevant contact information will be provided to each of the commission members, as this has not been available previously.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2013 at 9:15 a.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Guy Booth, Secretary