

THE SIXTY-SIXTH STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

30 October, 1962

Present were: Mr. Harry A. Batten
Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols
Mr. Charles E. Peterson
Mr. John Taxin
Mr. R. Norris Williams, II.

Mr. Grant M. Simon, Chairman

Also present: Mr. Philip Carroll, representing Commissioner Corleto
Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian
Mrs. Charles J. Maurer, Executive Secretary
Miss Constance F. Smith, Clerk

All actions mentioned herein, unless otherwise stated, were taken after motions properly presented, seconded and carried.

THE MINUTES for the September 25th Meeting were approved as circulated

REPORTS

The Historic Values Committee, Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols, Chairman. The Report, including the proposal "Criteria for Certification" was approved as read and ordered to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Architectural Committee, Mr. George K. Trautwein, Chairman. In Mr. Trautwein's absence, his report was read by the secretary. It was approved and ordered to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Commission's Activities. Dr. Tinkcom's report was approved and ordered to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes

OLD BUSINESS

238 South Third Street. The Redevelopment Authority has written to ask the Historical Commission to consider maintaining the present facade, the work of Wilson, ¹⁸⁸¹ instead of replacing it with a new front in the style of the original facade. It was moved, seconded and approved that the building be restored to its original condition.

Plaques. It was reported that an application for a plaque for Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Sixth and Spruce Streets had been received and turned down because the building has been altered as a result of a fire about the time of the Civil War. It was moved and seconded that Mr. Batten call on the Priest in Charge, Father

OLD BUSINESS continued

Gross, and ask his consideration of a plan to restore the building. This was approved.

The secretary reported that Procurement Department has approved the request from Fairmount Park Commission to purchase nineteen plaques.

It was resolved to study the Universalist Church on the south side of Lombard Street near Fourth before the next meeting and to review church properties, particularly those within the central portion of the City.

NEW BUSINESS

Musical Fund Hall, 808 Locust Street. The Chairman stated that he had been asked by Dr. Heisman, President of the Musical Fund Society, to look into the possibility of the restoration of this certified building. It was moved and seconded that a study be made and a report prepared for the next meeting. This was approved.

6901 Germantown Avenue. A short report on the alleged intention of the new owners to demolish the building was made. It was approved that Judge Saylor be asked to approach the Zoning Board, asking that action to prevent the replacing of this building by an apartment be considered. It was also approved that the Department of Licenses and Inspections be alerted; and a letter was directed to be sent to the owner, congratulating him on his fine house and explaining the Commission's role in any alterations he may plan.

Bigger Buildings. The Chairman asked the Members for suggestions on how to meet the problem of preserving larger buildings, citing several failures in recent years. Attention was called to the need for finding a useful future for the building in an effort to preserve it.

It was moved and seconded that a list of such buildings be prepared for the next meeting and that a note of approximate size of the building, the amount of ground surrounding it and the general character of the neighborhood be appended. This was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted

Charles E. Peterson