

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

July 25, 1961

Present were: Mr. Harry A. Batten
Commissioner Philip Klein
Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols
Mr. Charles E. Peterson
Mr. George K. Trautwein
Mr. R. Norris Williams, II.

Also present: Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian
Mrs. Charles J. Maurer, Secretary

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

THE MINUTES of the June 27th meeting were approved as read.

REPORTS Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols' report on the Historic Values Committee
Approved as filed

Mr. George K. Trautwein's report on the Architectural Committee
Approved as filed

Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom's report on the Commission's activities
Approved as filed

OLD BUSINESS Demolition by Neglect. Dr. Tinkcom reported that Mr. Morrison and Mr. Wilson of New Orleans report that their ordinance to control demolition by neglect was tested before a magistrate and the judge's decision is, therefore, not a matter of record. However, the violator was declared: "Guilty as charged."

It was agreed that all pertinent material be put in Commissioner Klein's hands, so that he might revive the proposal to have similar legislation drawn up to protect Philadelphia's historic buildings.

Tablet to commemorate the work of the late Dr. Allen Evans. The request for such a marker was reviewed again in response to letters from Mr. Blumberg and other interested persons. The Commission declined

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to reverse its opinion that markers of that character should not be permitted to be attached to certified buildings.

NEW BUSINESS A plaque for the Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany. The request was approved.

234 South Third Street. Mr. Peterson reported that he had viewed the rear of the buildings. It was his opinion that the Commission might have no objection to the demolition of the back buildings as proposed by the Redevelopment Authority, but suggested that it would be wise to wait until the purchaser had had the opportunity to decide whether or not the space was valuable to him.

A certified building for use of the Historical Commission. Mr. Batten suggested that the City purchase and restore an old house and, adapt it to the Commission's use. It was recommended that the matter be tabled for a later discussion.

Date of the next meeting. It was approved that there be no stated meeting in August. Unless previously called by the Chair, the next meeting will be held on September 26th.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P. M. to allow time to inspect the continuing restoration of the Bishop White house, 309 Walnut Street.

Respectfully submitted

Mr. Charles Peterson
Secretary