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MINUTES OF THE 153rd STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

26 January 1971

Present were: Mr. Charles R. Tyson, Chairman
Mr. Richmond P. Miller, Vice Chairman
The Hon. John B. Kelly, Jr., Councilman-at-Large
Mr. Henry N. Magaziner
Mr. Edward Pinkowski
Mr. John Taxin
Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian
Mrs. Charles J. Maurer, Secretary

Mrs. Joseph Segal, Redevelopment Authority

THE MINUTES for the November 24, 1970 Stated Meeting were approved as circulated.

NOTE: There was no meeting in December

REPORTS;

Staff Recommendations for Certifying Buildings, Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom
1500 North Broad Street, now the School of Social Service Administration, Temple University. Approved.
The Bourse, 4th & 5th Street, bet. Chestnut & Market Streets. Approved.
37-39 S. Third Street, the Leland Building. Approved.

Dr. Tinkcom called attention to a letter from Mr. Magaziner, Chairman of the Preservation Committee, Philadelphia Chapter AIA, recommending three buildings on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania be studied; and suggested that the University City Historical Society be asked by letter to make further recommendations on buildings which ought to be certified. This was approved.

The Preservation Committee further recommended the area of the Cross-town Expressway be reviewed again. (The Historical Commission's studies of Lombard, South and Bainbridge streets have concentrated on the areas between Front and Broad; and west of 20th, with a few exceptions in the intervening area.)

Mr. Magaziner's committee also recommends a study of watering troughs. It was suggested that the Pennsylvania SPCA may have a complete list of those in the old part of the city.

The Ridgway Library at Broad and Christian Streets was discussed at length. Dr. Tinkcom reported that this structure had not been certified, although reviewed by the Commission at several different times in the past. The City Planning Commission has suggested its use as a center for Negro Culture and Mr. Pinkowski suggested Mr. Samuel Evans and Mrs. Edythe H. Ingraham be asked for their support in a search for foundation money to finance the restoration of this structure.

Mr. Pinkowski stated that 919 South Street is associated with Polish immigrants and asked that it be preserved.

All the above recommendations were approved and appropriate action directed to be taken with regard to each proposal.

REPORTS continued

The Architectural Committee, Mr. John F. Lloyd, Chairman. The secretary read the Minutes for 15 December 1970, which were approved; and also the Minutes for 19 January, 1971. These also were approved, and the two reports directed to be filed with the official copies of the Minutes.

The Commission's Activities. Dr. Tinkcom read her report for the months of December 1970 and January 1971, stressing the close cooperation the Commission had enjoyed with various City agencies and other organizations during the period. The Report was approved and directed to be filed as above.

OLD BUSINESS

The Historical Commission's Ordinance, Mr. Magaziner reporting. Ordinances from Baltimore, New York and London had been studied and much useful information obtained, relevant to the Historical Commission's need for a revision of its ordinance. However, inasmuch as the National Trust for Historic Preservation is holding a conference on Legal Techniques in Preservation in May with Dr. Tinkcom as one of the panelists, it was decided to postpone any further discussion until after that event.

Old Falls Tavern, 4154-58 Ridge Avenue. Dr. Tinkcom and Mr. Kelly both reported on the present status of this structure. It was resolved that the Historian continue to explore the possibility of preserving this structure.

Signs for Historic Houses. It was reported that Mr. Arthur Kaufmann was interested in promoting this proposal. The type used on historical houses in Charleston was shown. No action was taken.

Delaware Expressway Cover. It was approved that the plea for help from the Committee to Preserve the Nation's Birthplace be acted on and that letters to the Hon. John A. Volpe and the Hon. F.C. Turner be written, with copies to Senator Hugh Scott. Dr. Tinkcom was asked to carry out this approved action.

NEW BUSINESS

Old City Area, delineated by Walnut and Vine; Front and Fifth Streets, was described by Dr. Tinkcom as containing many 19th century commercial buildings which City Planning Commission proposes be preserved. It was approved that the Historical Commission endorse this proposal and recommend its approval on the understanding that all plans be coordinated with all existing rules.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

M. R. Maurer
Secretary