

D R A F T

THE MINUTES OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

26 October, 1965

Present were: Mr. Grant M. Simon, Chairman

Mr. Harry A. Batten
Mr. James L. Ferguson, Deputy Director of Finance
Mr. Richmond P. Miller
Mr. John Taxin

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

THE MINUTES of the 28 September Stated Meeting were approved as circulated.

Unless otherwise noted, all action taken herein is the result of motions properly made, seconded and carried.

REPORTS

Historic Values Committee, Dr. Roy F. Nichols, Chairman. There was no report to be presented.

Architectural Committee, Mr. George K. Trautwein, Chairman. In his absence, a short report by Mr. John F. Lloyd, Consulting Architect for the Redevelopment Authority, was read. Mr. Lloyd gave his recommendations for several submissions. His report was approved.

The Commission's Activities, Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian. Arising from the report was a suggestion that the exhibit, prepared for the Annual Meeting of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, held in Raleigh, October 6 to 10, be put on exhibition at the Philadelphia National Bank. Mr. Batten suggested that Mr. Potts, President of the Philadelphia National Bank be approached.

Mr. Miller made appreciative comments on Dr. Tinkcom's paper on "William Penn, City Planner" read at the First Annual Forum at Pennsbury by George Anne Porter Daly, who presented it very well indeed.

Dr. Tinkcom's report was approved and directed to be filed with the Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Civil Service. Mr. Simon rehearsed the background of the subject and quoted from a memorandum dated 13 October, 1965, sent to the office by Mr. Forristal, Personnel Director of Public Property. It was determined

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OLD BUSINESS continued

that this did not include sufficient information to answer the questions from the board. Mr. Ferguson agreed to talk to Mr. Foster Rosser and to report on the call to Mr. Batten.

Benjamin Rush Birthplace, Red Lion & Academy Roads. Hyman Korman Corporation has set aside two acres of land and amended the street plan so that the house and barn may be saved. However, funds available through Project 70 are too remote to be useful. It was suggested that the Historical Commission call together a group of interested persons, such as Commissioner Crawford, Dr. S. K. Stevens and Dr. Franklyn R. Clarke, Director of Resident Training, Philadelphia State Hospital, to discuss possibilities of preserving and restoring this certified building, and to find a use for it. Since such a procedure seemed unlikely to provide any concrete help, Mr. Taxin agreed to speak to Mr. Korman.

✓ Mr. Batten suggested that Mr. Benjamin Rush, Jr., Chairman of the Board, Insurance Company of North America and Mr. Diemand might agree to work on this matter with Mr. Korman. The Chairman turned the problem over to Mr. Taxin.

516 Woodland Terrace. A letter from the attorney for the new owner was discussed, chiefly with regard to the proposal to create a parking area in the front garden of this house. It was recommended that letters be sent to Mr. Leo Molinaro of the West Philadelphia Corporation and to the Zoning Board of Adjustment protesting such a proposal.

Mother Bethel Church, application for a plaque. It was recommended that, under the circumstances as set forth in the letter to the Commission from the attorney, the Commission will lend the church an unnumbered plaque to be on exhibit at the time of the 200th Anniversary ceremonies. This must be returned to the Philadelphia Historical Commission. When the work is completely finished, a plaque should be applied for in the usual way.

Signs along Second Street at Head House Square. It was resolved that this matter be referred to the Old Philadelphia Development Corporation as the Historical Commission has no authority in this matter.

Mr. Larson's letter regarding inappropriate signs in Southwark was read. A reply, thanking him for his continuing cooperation, should be sent.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was entertained, made, seconded and carried at 4:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant M. Simon, Chairman