

D R A F T

THE EIGHTY-SECOND STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

26 May, 1964

Present were: Mr. Harry A. Batten
Commissioner Charles G. Day
Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols
Mr. Richmond P. Miller
Mr. George K. Trautwein
Councilman-at-Large Mary A. Varallo
Mr. R. Norris Williams, II.

Mr. Grant M. Simon, Chairman

Also present: Mr. James L. Ferguson, representing the Director of Finance
Mr. Oscar Goodstein, Administrative Services Officer to Mr. Day
Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian
Mrs. Charles J. Maurer, Secretary
Miss Constance F. Smith, Clerk II.

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

THE MINUTES for the 28 April 1964 Stated Meeting were approved as circulated.

REPORTS

Historic Values Committee - Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols, Chairman.
The Report was approved as read.

Architectural Committee - Mr. George K. Trautwein, Chairman.
A list of properties for which drawings were submitted was read,
three problems mentioned and a statement that three plaques were
awarded. This was approved.

The Chairman of the Committee also reported on a discussion with
Mr. Dawson and Mr. Miglioccio of the Department of Licenses and
Inspections, of the jurisdiction of the Historical Commission.
Mr. Simon then reported, briefly, on a telephone conversation with
Mr. William L. Lindsay, Jr., who stated that Deputy Commissioner Wegner
had set the policy under which the Historical Commission is currently
operating, as outlined in the Commission's Minutes for February, 1960,
and will see that the Chief of Field Operations, Mr. Edward Dawson, is
so notified. Mr. Trautwein's report was approved.

The Commission's Activities - Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian.
Action on Dr. Tinkcom's report involved the following items:

The Potts House, 3905 Spruce Street, in the area known as University City.
It was resolved that the Commission take no action until the application
for a demolition permit is formally made.

REPORTS continued

Naglee House, 4513 Germantown Avenue. It was reported that the Nicetown project contemplates enlarging its area to include this historic structure; then acquire it and turn it over to the Society for the Preservation of Landmarks to be restored. A letter from the Commission supporting this proposal will be solicited. It was agreed that this letter should be written.

Dr. Tinkcom's report was approved. The three reports were ordered to be filed with the official copies of the Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

300 Block of Lombard Street. The Chairman asked that Mr. Lammer's letter, dated May 15 be read. He then reviewed the background for Mrs. Varallo. It was noted that the Commission approved the demolition of certified buildings in the 400 block of Lombard Street on the basis of plans submitted by Mr. Brumbaugh for the Presbyterian Board without protest. It was further stated that it has always been the policy of the Commission to see plans showing the use to which the area is to be put in order to judge whether good and just cause for demolition of the certified property or properties exists.

Mr. Batten made the motion that the Commission write to Mr. Lammer and explain this. This was approved.

276 South Third Street. Action was deferred until the Commission can be sure that all possible means for its preservation have been explored and the matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Musical Fund Hall. It was stated that the Redevelopment asks to which facade the Commission would want this building restored, if an interested party should appear. It was agreed that complete restoration of both interior and exterior is not feasible at this time. The Addison Hutton facade may be kept for the present. The Commission hopes, however, that a full restoration of the ~~original~~ ^{beacon} facade would be undertaken later.

Crosstown Expressway ramps and access lanes east of Third Street. Dr. Tinkcom reported on the maps being prepared in Mr. C. Clark Zantzinger's office. It was agreed that the Commission write to the Redevelopment Authority and to Mr. Smallwood, asking for definite information on this matter. Mrs. Varallo and Mr. Day concurred.

Appropos, Commissioner Day addressed the Chairman to say he has a valuable staff and wished to have the comment made a matter of record.

Councilman Varallo introduced the subject of the site of the Jefferson House at 7th and Market Streets at this point, stating that she intends to do something about getting rid of the existing hotdog stand. Mr. Batten reported that the Federal Government is about to tear down the stand and the only open question now is whether a reconstruction of the former building or a garden with the text of the Constitution engraved on tablets should mark the site.

NEW BUSINESS

503 North Marshall Street. It was resolved that a letter to Mr. Bacon asking for a restudy of the area bounded by Spring Garden, Buttonwood, Sixth and Marshall Streets in the light of extensive documentation of certified buildings in the neighborhood be written.

224 West Tulpehocken Street. A letter from Mr. Ralph D. Strong, Incorporator of Unitarian Universalist House of the Joseph Priestley District was read, asking for the demolition of the barn at once and ultimately of the house. Dr. Tinkcom rehearsed the background of the subject noting that permission to demolish the barn had been given. It was agreed that permission to demolish the house will be deferred to the end of the six month's period which the Historical Commission can invoke. During this time it is hoped that Colonial Germantown, Inc. will be able to complete arrangements to lease the house for a community center.

713 Walnut Street. A letter from Mr. Jacob Hoffman was read, in which he requested approval to install a store front. The Commission does not look with favor on this proposal in the light of the building's importance, and the importance of the entire row and its proximity to Washington Square and to the grave of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolutionary War. It was agreed that the building should be restored as a residence.

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

Respectfully submitted &c...