

MINUTES OF THE 166th STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

4 May 1972

Present: Charles R. Tyson, Chairman of the Commission
Edward Pinkowski
Robert Silver, Deputy Commissioner of Public Property
Henry J. Magaziner, Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian
Mrs. Charles J. Maurer, Executive Assistant to the Chairman
Mrs. Joseph Segal, Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
Ira Winarsky, Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Secretary

Guests: R. Damon Childs, Executive Director of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Mr. Theodore Bartley and Mr. Ralph Reynolds of BARTLEY, LONG, MIRENDA & REYNOLDS and Mr. Bruce McFadden and his assistant, Mr. Stroll, to present to the Historical Commission the Pennsylvania Hospital's request to demolish 201-03-05 Spruce Street.

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

THE MINUTES for the Stated Meeting 6 April 1972 were approved, as corrected, and directed to be filed.

The following corrections were made:

The minute concerning the Civil War Memorial in Germantown's Market Square was amended to read "Historic District Committee of the Germantown Historical Society" in place of "Germantown Historical Society." This same change was made again in a further reference to the "Germantown Historical Society." A letter will be sent to Judge Harold Saylor of the Germantown Historical Society informing him of this amendment.

The minute concerning the Kosciuszko House at 301 Pine Street was amended to read "Mr. Pinkowski reported that the United States Senate has approved a bill providing \$529,000 for the restoration and furnishing of this historic structure. The House, however, has not yet acted."

REPORTS

The Report of the Architectural Committee for 18 April 1972 was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

REPORTS (Cont'd)

Staff Recommendations for Certifying Buildings. The following buildings were certified by the Historical Commission as being worthy of preservation:

533 W. Tioga Street - St. Veronica's Church
655-57 North ~~St. Arch~~ Street - Calvary Baptist Church of Philadelphia
1830 Rittenhouse Square
330 South Twenty-first Street
345 South Eighteenth Street
229 North Camac Street

Certification of the buildings on Parker Avenue was tabled by the Commission until a further study of present plans for the area and the buildings has been made.

The Commission's Activities, Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian (prepared and presented to the Commission by Patricia A. Siemiontkowski, Secretary). The report on Commission activities for April was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

706-14 Spruce Street (Pennsylvania Hospital properties). The Messrs. Bartley, Reynolds, McFadden, and Stroll attended the Historical Commission meeting to present the Pennsylvania Hospital's plans for the proposed expansion of their medical facilities. The most urgent need, as explained by Mr. Bartley, is to extend an existing building located on the north side of Spruce Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets. The extension to the existing structure would call for the demolition of three historically certified buildings at 801-03-05 Spruce Street. The Commission was asked to consider the urgency in this matter and allow the houses at 801-03-05 to be demolished.

Mr. Magaziner suggested that an agreement might be made with the hospital to allow the demolition of the three buildings in the 800 block of Spruce Street if those at 706-14 Spruce Street are preserved. Mr. McFadden stated that no compromise could be made at this time but that the hospital has asked the firm of BARTLEY, LONG, MIRENDA & REYNOLDS to study the buildings at 706-14 Spruce Street in an effort to discover whether it is economically feasible for these structures to be preserved and used.

The guests were thanked for coming to the Historical Commission to explain their proposals and were excused.

In executive session, the Historical Commission board members expressed their pleasure in having the hospital's cooperation and their hope that some way can be found to make it possible to preserve the Spruce Street

OLD BUSINESS (Cont'd)

buildings in the 700 block. A motion was made to compose a letter, with Redevelopment Authority and counsel approval, to be sent to the firm of BARTLEY, LONG, MIRANDA & REYNOLDS approving the demolition of 801-03-05 Spruce Street on the assumption that every conceivable effort will be made to protect and preserve 706-14 Spruce Street. This motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Several pieces of correspondence between the owner of 2131 Delancey Street, Mr. Arnold Rosenberg, Esq., and the Historical Commission's Chairman dealing with the recent certification of all the houses in the 2100 block of Delancey Street were read to the Board. It was the opinion of Mr. Rosenberg that his rights as a property owner had been infringed upon by the certification of his house and that steps will be taken to have this action reversed. The Commission members decided to take the matter under advisement. A letter notifying Mr. Rosenberg of the Commission's decision will be sent.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Secretary