

D R A F T

THE 101st STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

1 March 1966

Present were: Mr. Grant M. Simon, Chairman

Mr. Harry A. Batten

Mr. Martin Doyle, Deputy Director of Finance for the Budget

Mr. Oscar Goodstein, Administrative Assistant, Dept. of Public Property

Mr. George K. Trautwein

Mr. R. Norris Williams, II.

Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian

Mrs. Charles J. Maurer, Secretary

NOTE: Mrs. Richmond P. Miller called to say her husband is ill.

Mr. Ferguson's secretary notified that he is ill.

Councilman Varallo is also ill.

Dr. Roy Franklin Nichols was out of town

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

THE MINUTES for the meeting held 25 January 1966 were approved as circulated.

REPORTS

Architectural Committee, Mr. George K. Trautwein, Chairman. It was reported that twelve submissions were reviewed, eight of which were approved, and four require further study. The report was approved and ordered to be filed with the official copies of the Minutes.

The Commission's Activities, Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian. This report was approved as read and ordered to be filed.

OLD BUSINESS

Cannon Ball Farm, Penrose Ferry Road near the Air Port Circle. Dr. Tinkcom read Commissioner Baxter's letter of 14 February 1966 in which he again asked the Historical Commission to permit the Water Department to dismantle or demolish this certified building in order that his facilities may be expanded. A letter from Mr. Brumbaugh, architect for the restoration of Fort Mifflin was then read and it was resolved that Cannon Ball House be preserved and moved to Fort Mifflin. A copy of Mr. Brumbaugh's letter and a copy of the map indicating the site to which it should be moved is to be sent to Mr. Baxter.

Ridgway Library, Broad and Christian Streets. It was resolved that Philip Dechert, Esq. be told, in response to his letter, that so far no acceptable use has been found for this building. The city would be glad to know of any use he can suggest. Mr. Williams, meanwhile, will call Mr. Dilworth to suggest the building for the new K4-4-4 program.

Merchants' Hotel, 44 North 4th Street. It was resolved that a letter be sent to Mr. Lammer with a strong expression of hope that care be taken to

OLD BUSINESS

Merchants' Hotel continued

preserve buildings owned by Redevelopment Authority and historically certified from similar disastrous fires.

Delaware Expressway. Dr. Tinkcom reported that Dr. John Craig Roak, Rector of Gloria Dei, will meet with Senator Clark in Washington 2 March and has asked whether Mr. Simon would delegate someone to go as representing the Historical Commission or whether he would prefer writing a letter stating the Commission's position with regard to the route of the Expressway through Southwark, its relation to Gloria Dei and the certified buildings the present route will involve. It was resolved that a letter be sent, calling Senator Clark's attention to the national importance of Gloria Dei and the loss to the city that will follow if the present design is adhered to.

The Six Month Period during which the Historical Commission can withhold its approval to a demolition permit. Postponed because of Councilman Varallo's absence to the next Stated Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The Pennsylvania Hospital's proposal to demolish 241-255 South 8th Street for an out-patient service for nervous diseases. It was resolved to write to T. Truxtun Hare, Jr., Esq., President, and report the reasons for their having been certified; state the Commission's interest in preserving them; but note that if no other solution to the Hospital's plan for expansion is available, the matter will be reviewed again.

Schedule of hours for Dr. Tinkcom, Historian, and her Assistant. Mr. Doyle noted that Dr. Tinkcom is now working half time because of her teaching schedule, but that after 1 July will return to full time, and that Mrs. Kirkbride is presently working full time and will continue so to do. The Chairman reported this to be the wish of the Historical Commission. Action necessary to effect the transfer of the necessary funds to cover the salaries of Dr. Tinkcom and Mrs. Kirkbride from Class 200 to Class 100 will be taken by the Department of Public Property and by City Council. The letter to Commissioner Day from Mr. Simon on 31 January provided the necessary initial action. This was confirmed by Commission Day's reply, dated February 15, 1966.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Doyle for appearing in Mr. Ferguson's stead and excused him.

Mr. Batten asked how more plaques could be assigned to certified buildings. Dr. Tinkcom agreed to have Mrs. Kirkbride do a field survey on the Society Hill area and to make recommendations for plaques on fully restored buildings found to be worthy of plaques. The Commission could then authorize their purchase.

Additional plaques for City Hall, all with the same number, was also discussed. Mr. Goodstein agreed to take the matter up with Commissioner Day.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 P. M.

Respectfully submitted