

AUBURN'S HISTORIC & CULTURAL SITES COMMISSION

Annual Meeting minutes from February 8, 2012 at BID Office Conference Room

Present: M. Alberici, B. Chabot, A. Fuller, E. McHugh, D. Lamb, S. Muldoon, C. Reilley, D. Stankus, M. Traudt, K. Walker

Excused: P. Carter, L. Frank

Absent: J. Camardo, J. Loperfido

Guests: Representatives of the Seymour Library – Danette Davis, Pat Messina, Ellen DelloStritto, Jill Fandrich, Leah Lesch, Susan Ahner.

M. Alberici welcomed representatives affiliated with Seymour Library. They individually addressed the Commission citing their reasons for becoming a stop on the Passport to History program. M. Alberici thanked them for coming, and advised them that the Commission would further discuss whether or not to add them and let them know the results. Upon their departure, discussion was held, and it was decided that a decision would be made at the March 14, 2012 Commission meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

B. Chabot read the Commission's mission and vision statements. E. McHugh made a motion to accept the 12/14/11 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by M. Vanek. **All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report

B. Murdoch reported on expenses since 12/14/11. D. Stankus made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by E. McHugh. **All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Site Directors – Nothing to report

Marketing Committee

M. Vanek spoke of an advertising opportunity with WCNY, a PBS station. The proposal includes 70 TV spots and a 1/3 page color ad and 305-word article in the New York Traveler Section of CNY Connected magazine. This initiative would replace Time Warner Cable.

K. Walker made a motion to move forward with the advertising proposal with WCNY. The motion was seconded by E. McHugh. **All were in favor and the motion carried.** M. Vanek said she was very pleased with the article included in the packets "The History of Freedom in the Heart of New York" that was a direct result of a 2011 UK Press Tour.

Community Outreach

C. Reilley is currently updating the letter that is handed to students for the 2012 Passport to History program. She will email it to B. Murdoch who will add the site hours and print enough copies for the students.

Unfinished Business

M. Alberici reported that the terms of D. Stankus, S. Muldoon, and herself were up 12/31/11. All three Commission members would like to stay on. B. Murdoch will notify Laurie Turo from

City Hall to prepare a resolution to have all three members re-instated to another 3 year term. The resolution will include appointing City of Auburn Councilman, John Camardo, to the Commission replacing Gilda Brower.

Arts & Economic Prosperity Study

E. McHugh reported that the collection of data portion of the Study is complete. The results will be released to the press and public on 6/8/12 during the Americans for the Arts annual convention in San Antonio.

E. McHugh recommended that Randy Cohen, Vice President of Research and Policy, be invited to Auburn to give presentations of the results. The Commission members agreed. D. Lamb will seek funding that will cover, or partially cover the expenses associated with the presentation.

B. Murdoch will contact R. Cohen to see when he is available.

Unfinished Business

M. Alberici spoke to Laurel Auchampaugh, who is in the process of completing the script for the PODCAST project. Once the script is complete, the information will be given to Fort Hill Cemetery to verify the information.

Announcements

C. Reilly was pleased to announce that plans for the Ignite the Winter Festival Event on 3/2/12. It will be a great event with many activities.

K. Walker said that the Annual Chef's Night was very successful with over 200 people attending. The concert on 2/12, The Life of Harriet Tubman: A Spiritual Journey Through Music, presented by "The Syracuse Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America", is almost sold out. A concert is also scheduled for 3/11/12 featuring the Cornell University Klesmer Ensemble.

E. McHugh mentioned that their new exhibit, Stepping Out: Dancing in Cayuga County, is now open. The exhibit explores social, folk and the fine art of dance as well as showcases our local dance schools and studios.

M. Traudt said that the exhibit, "Both Ends of the Rainbow" is open to the public. On 3/24/12, they will host a Beer and Cheese Pairing event from 7-9pm.

B. Chabot said the Seward House Museum remains closed in February. They are doing much needed cleaning and painting. They will open on 3/1 and will be hosting a 3/2/12 First Friday event in conjunction with the Ignite the Winter Festival. The museum will feature an exhibit on Alaska, and an Alaskan huskies dog sled team will be on site as well.

M. Vanek announced that there will be a meeting on 2/27/12 at the Auburn Public Theater from 10-11:30 a.m. to engage our tourism partners with the MTF and help build on it with pre-theater menus, hotel packages, etc. She encouraged everyone to attend.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 A.M. by E. McHugh. The motion was seconded by D. Stankus. **The next Commission meeting will be held at the Harriet Tubman conference room on 3/14/12.**

Recorded by Barbara Murdoch