Palmyra Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes January 21, 2010

Present: Chris Daly, Vicky Daly, Ellie Drake, Jim Elliott, Mark Vande, Judy Zanin.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.

Jim Elliott moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Ellie Drake seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Elliott gave an update on the Main St. rowhouses, including the vacant one the commission is especially concerned with. The vacant row house was owned by a California resident named Mark Lovewell, who also owned the canal era inn near the Garlock house. Jim's research indicated that the house was built in the 1880s, but he felt this was in error. The National Register research showed that it was built in the 1830s. The other owners of the occupied row houses are John Martin, Dean George, Wonderland Properties (Paul Gilfus), and Brad Jacobs. It was discussed that all of the buildings in that row should be nominated, not just the vacant one. Vicky suggested that grant sources should be given to the owners, so that they are aware that nomination is a good thing.

Jim also researched the Garlock House, which was built in 1812 by Peleg Holmes, and purchased in the 1890s (and remodeled) by O.J. Garlock. The current owner is a Mr. Shah in Monroe County. He is planning on turning it into business offices.

Jim spoke to Iain Gellatly regarding nominating his home on Cuyler St., and about becoming a member of the commission, and also about doing a presentation about restoring his house. Iain agreed to all three items. He will be presenting at the next meeting: February 18th.

Judy Zanin suggested that our first nomination should be Iain's house, as he is receptive to the idea, and we can "learn" on him. Also, it would be a good introduction to the commission's work for Iain, as well.

It was agreed that we would put the Garlock House on the list of buildings to nominate. Jim Elliott would like to nominate the whole business district, and the Griffith house.

Vicky Daly told the commission members that she spoke to Custom Trophy about making plaques for any owners who have a house that is in the historic district.

Judy Zanin made the motion that we sponsor speakers quarterly, rather than every other month, at Jim Elliott's suggestion. Ellie Drake seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark Vande suggested that a map depicting the Village be created so that we can star the nominated properties. Vicky Daly told the group that Mike Boesel can, through pictometry, produce aerial photographs. Vicky said she would ask him to produce one for our purposes.

Vicky Daly told the commission members that Bob Sloan and John Denniston both asked for a copy of the National Register nominated district.

Mark Vande shared with the commission that Historic Palmyra, years ago, made plaques available for purchase indicating the year a building was built. He suggested that the Preservation Commission do something like that.

Vicky Daly stated that when the budget allowed, there would be signs posted which indicated when people were entering the National Register nominated district.

Mark Vande suggested that the Commission put an ad in the Courier Journal regarding the prices of different styles of plaques. He also said that the Commission might be able to provide the date built to the home owners, as a service.

Vicky Daly recommended to the Commission that we keep track of the goals stated in the first meeting of the year.

Mark Vande suggested that the Commission make plaque info available to owners before the Landmark Society Conference this Spring. Vicky Daly suggested that a letter to the editor in the Courier Journal be written, offering specific information about homes in the historic district. It was decided that this would be postponed for now.

Ellie Drake asked if pictometry allowed the images of buildings to be taken out and have building dates and addresses put in instead? Vicky said that she didn't think so.

Mark Vande stated that tax map info is available online. Vicky Daly said she would look into that.

The Commission members reviewed the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Mark Vande suggested that we loan out numbered copies of the book to home owners who are applying for building permits, if they have homes in the historic district. Vicky Daly said she would contact Julian Adams to see if he could provide us with more copies.

Vicky Daly said she would check with Donna McPike about Muddy Waters' availability on 2/18/10 for Iain's presentation. She also said she would give copies of the National Register Nomination document to the Commission members.

Mark Vande said he would send out a photo of the "year built" plaque that was on his house.

Chris Daly made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Ellie Drake, and passed unanimously.

To Do List:

Vicky Daly:

- 1) Ask Mike Boesel to create a photo of the historic district for our purposes
- 2) Look into Tax Map availability online
- 3) Check if Julian Adams can provide us with more "Standards of Rehab" books
- 4) Check with Donna McPike about using Muddy Waters on 2/18/10.
- 5) Provide National Register Historic District Nomination document to the Commission members

Mark Vande:

1) Sent photo example of "year built" plaque to Commission members.