

MIDDLETOWN PRESERVATION BOARD
Minutes: March 9, 1994

PRESENT

J. Bianco, Chair
B. Kronenberger
F. Patnaude
J. Fortuna
D. Gallitto
P. Evans

ABSENT

E. Rak-Roberts
R. Santangelo
Vacancy

ALSO PRESENT

C. Wilcox, Staff

Chairman J. Bianco called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. in Room B-15 of the Municipal Building and welcomed new members.

Public Forum

No one from the public wished to speak.

Minutes

Upon a motion by B. Kronenberger, seconded by J. Bianco, the minutes of June 28, 1993 were accepted unanimously with abstentions from C. Fortuna, F. Patnaude and P. Evans.

Danforth Easement

Upon a motion by P. Evans, seconded by F. Patnaude, it was voted unanimously to ratify the change in the historic easement on the Danforth Pewter Shop as recommended to the Common Council.

Awards

J. Bianco discussed the guidelines and D. Gallitto suggested that the list be made more current. After considerable discussion, the Committee decided to give two preservation awards in 1994 - - probably on Wednesday during Preservation Week, which would be May 11, 1994. The awards would go to South Congregational Church for the restoration of their Steeple last year and to Russell Mill on East Main Street.

Discussion ensued on the nature of many good restorations where a lot of money is spent and work done without changing the look of the buildings at all. This is exactly the point, but the work given often goes unappreciated. The YMCA was given as an example.

The Committee also wished to encourage preservation projects according to scale... in other words, encourage individuals and small groups to do meaningful smaller jobs, and larger entities (like Wesleyan) to do big jobs.

New Business

Pythian Building - J. Bianco reported to the Committee on what had happened to the marble on the building, and of the Bank's consideration of putting it back at a meeting with himself, Ann Street, C. Wilcox and their contractor. He thought another meeting with the bank might be appropriate.

Arriwani - C. Wilcox reminded the Board that the Arriwani was in the area where any changes in design would come to their Board for design review. J. Bianco, as the architect on the job, described what some of those changes to the exterior might be. They included window replacement with either wood or aluminum sash; replacement of wooden spandrils, possibly with metal; new entrances; and extension (or possibly replacement) of the cornice along the Liberty Street facade (he thought there may have been a cornice there when it was built.)

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Cynthia G. Wilcox

CGW/lmk