

## MIDDLETOWN PRESERVATION & DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

MINUTES

APRIL 10, 1996

**PRESENT**

J. Bianco, Chair  
B. Kronenberger  
J. Fortuna  
A. Tommasi  
N. Goff  
E. Warner  
P. Evans  
D. Brown

**ABSENT**

Vacancy

**ALSO PRESENT**

B. Bozzi  
C. Wilcox, Staff

Chair, J. Bianco called the meeting to order in Room B-15 of the Municipal Building at 5:10 p.m.

Upon a motion by J. Fortuna, seconded by A. Tommasi the minutes presented were approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

- A. St. Sebastian's Convent - Chairman Bianco updated the Committee on the progress of this project which is to move the convent to the parking lot on Washington Street onto City property. He noted that the Connection, Inc. or their development arm TCF, the Connection Fund, had submitted a letter of proposal to the Economic Development Committee and that at present the potential tenant was the KidCity museum. They had presented their proposal to the Economic Development Committee last Monday and expected to return in May with more specific ideas on the site plan.
- B. Long Hill Estate - Staff updated the Committee on the National Register nomination and asked if the Preservation Board as a group wish to send a letter of support. The consensus was that they were happy to have the property as a district on the National Register and authorize staff to draft such a letter.
- C. Logo Contest - Staff reported that the response was extremely strong to the publicity for a Logo Contest and that the Mayor's Office was hoping that the Preservation Board would select a panel of judges. The Chair asked for volunteers from the Committee and suggested the following slate, Patricia Evans and James Fortuna from the Committee. Patricia Evans has already agreed to Chair it. In addition, Sam Katz and Dave Wolfram as professional design consultants and Marie Kallita as the representative from the Central Business Bureau. The Board had no problem with this slate and Patricia Evans will call a meeting as soon as all the votes and slogans are received.

MPDRB Minutes: April 10, 1996, p.2

- D. Speaker/Program for Preservation Week Award Ceremony - The Board discussed the location of the ceremony again and the consensus was to go to Russell House at Wesleyan. The timing was left somewhat up in the air. They all agreed that they still wished that Tom Elmore of Denig Design Associates be the speaker to report on whatever research he has done to date on the historic aspects of the landscape design at Long Hill Estate. Mr. Elmore is willing to do so.

New Business

The Chairman, Jeff Bianco conducted the award elections. He also abstained from any vote himself and did the calculations to ascertain which were the top two winners. Eight Buildings had been nominated for awards and each Committee member was asked to mark their top five choices. Number five being their first choice and number one being their last choice. After calculating the points the first award will go the Chamber of Commerce and the second to the Law Offices of Ralph Wilson at 137 South Main Street.

Danforth Pewter Shop Easement

Chairman Bianco indicated that architect Alan Munkittrick had sent in his comments regarding the renovations made to the Danforth Pewter Shop and how they may have differed from the plans set forth in the easement. In the original plans there had been a definitive attempt to distinguish any new windows which had been put into the building from the older windows by not having small panes or snap ins. The Committee commented, however, that it may look odd to leave one of the six over twelve windows in the south elevation looking different from the original windows. They agreed that the snap ins in the new area could be removed. There was also a change of clapboards to the left of the door to vertical siding. The Committee discussed these ramifications and D. Brown suggested that they should support the historical look rather than to have what some people might have thought was a "funny" look. The Board agreed to do a formal inspection sometime before their next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

  
Cynthia G. Wilcox