

Roundtable of Royal Oak Historical Organizations
Minutes of Meeting
January 19, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 P. M.

In attendance: Barbara Randau, Ruth Cleaveland, Lois Lance, Karen Crawford, Pete Mancour and Bill Sullivan.

Minutes of the November 11, 2009 Meeting

Ruth Cleaveland moved to approve. Pete Mancour seconded. Motion approved without correction!

Barbara Randau announced that she sent a donation of \$25 from all of us to the Methodist Church in memory of Owen Perkins. We owe her \$5 each.

Group Updates

Randau stated that the Historical Commission has purchased pencils to be given to all visitors to the Starr House. They are printed Orson Starr House Royal Oak. Everyone was given a sample.

Karen Crawford reported that the Historical Commission has been working on the rewrite of the city web pages dealing with their subjects. They are also developing a coloring book to be used in the teaching of our local history. A new application has been submitted for additional block grant funds. They would like to apply another coat of preservative to the roof, replace and paint the fence from the driveway north and then along part of the side street. They are also planning to do some updates and improvements to the interior of the garage. The specifics of that project are under advisement.

Mancour and Bill Sullivan announced that the Fire Station is almost done. They now have a certificate of occupancy and are starting to move items to the new location. The big move is scheduled for January 30th. Everything at the old location is packed and ready to go.

The last heat bill at the fire station was \$781. The fund raiser letter that was sent out in December has produced a good return. Including the funds from David Penney's book, they have about \$7000.

Mancour also noted that he has talked to Don Chisholm about opening up the Almon Starr House and was told yes.

Sullivan reported that the first Townhall Meeting will be on the Archeology of the Starr House. It will be held at Northwood School. Randau stated that the Historical Commission had planned to do something with this topic. This should have been a joint effort between the Historical Society and the Historical Commission.

Mancour also said that they want the Firehouse listed as an Historic District. Cleaveland noted that they will need to come before the Historic District Study Committee in February to request it.

Cleaveland announced that the Historic District Study Committee is meeting Thursday night. They will review the final report on the Stauch/Roby House. More than 51% of the house is original. They will also look at options for plaques for historically designated sites.

Lois Lance reported that there was no open house at the Starr House in January due to the cold weather. In December they had 32 visitors and the organist from the Congregational Church. She played the antique organ. All of the pavers in the back are now done. The Guild is not sure if they will sell any more.

Treasurer's Report

Crawford noted that the Acorn Fund currently shows a balance of \$22468.09 in the book account. She deposited an additional \$756 so the correct balance should be \$23,224.09. The calendar account has \$2340.30.

Old Business

Cleaveland said that she thinks we should produce placemats with old photos of Royal Oak sites on one side and plaid on the reverse. They should be plastic. A discussion ensued. Crawford asked where we would sell them? Sullivan is going to a trade show in New York and will look for ideas and sources while there.

New Business

This topic was tabled.

The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2010 at 3 P.M. It will be located at the Historical Society's Museum located at 1116 W Webster, Royal Oak MI 48073.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

Minutes transcribed by Karen Crawford, Secretary