

CITY OF MISHAWAKA

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION October 3, 2017

A regular meeting of the Mishawaka Historic Preservation Commission was held Tuesday, October 3, 2017.

Chairman Doug Merritt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Commission members: Terry DeMaegd, Dave Eisen, Jennifer Johns, Doug Merritt, Nancy Seidler, and Faye Sullivan. Advisory members: Shirley McAlister, Thomas Morris, and Jason Stoller. Staff: Christa Hill. Public: Dave Straughn.

Jason Stoller pointed out that under Historic District/Plaques, the house we are referring to this the Eberhart Major House, not the Merrifield Cass House.

A motion by Dave Eisen seconded by Terry DeMaegd approved the September 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Historic Districts/Plaques

There was no update on the mason for the Eberhart Major House.

B. Public Relations & Community Education

There was no report.

C. Administration and Incentives

Please take a copy of the printed Appendix A for the Handbook. Cliff Zenor took the photos and Christa Hill and intern Ashley McQuarters updated the text.

D. Staff Notes

a. Castle Manor Plaques

Ken Prince has asked for two plaques for the renovated Castle Manor project; one on Mayor Castleman and one about the lodge itself. Christa Hill found a lot of information at the Heritage Center at the library about the Mayor. "Dedicated to the Girlhood of Mishawaka" was included since it was mentioned during our meeting at Castle Manor. Terry DeMaegd asked how big the plaques would be. The font may be smaller with so much text. Dave Eisen found some typos that will be corrected before sending to the printer.

Castle Manor

Built by the National Youth Administration (NYA), a subsidiary of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the building first opened in September 1941, "dedicated to the Girlhood of Mishawaka", and was known simply as the "girls lodge". In 1947, the building was renamed Castle Manor to honor late Mayor Carl J. Castleman. Renovated in 1965, it has provided a place for the community to come together to celebrate class reunions, family reunions, and weddings in addition to its original function as a gathering spot for girl and women's organizations.

Mayor Castleman

Carl J. Castleman was Mayor of Mishawaka from 1939 to 1942. Prior to becoming Mayor, he was the Street Commissioner and managed Carl J. Castleman Coal and Ice Company. During the time he was Mayor, Petro Park was completed, the City purchased an asphalt plant and used WPA labor to repair and pave streets, and he was instrumental in obtaining federal funds for the construction of the girls lodge in Merrifield Park. He died in December 1944, and Castle Manor was named in his honor in 1947.

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- b. After Normain Heights Conservation District was approved by Council, Christa Hill had a conversation with the City Clerk's office about whose responsibility it was to record the ordinance. Since this was the first time hearing about recording the document with the County, Christa checked the files and found 8 other ordinance that need to be recorded. She will request money and have them recorded before the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Riviera Place Marker Damage

Doug Merritt contacted the LaPorte INDOT office who confirmed the sign is in the City ROW. INDOT suggested collecting the loose pieces to store so they were not further damaged or stolen. Bob Canfield, one of the homeowners, is organizing the neighbors. They are going after the driver of the car's insurance.

Promotional Item Examples

Christa Hill spoke with Barb with Stephenson Marketing. Even looking on the website, there were so many options. An example of a quote is 250 cups @ \$0.51 plus \$40 per color setup plus shipping (plastic cups are fairly light). She suggested only using one color instead of paying an additional \$40 for a blue stripe. Faye Sullivan suggested using a blue cup to keep that connection. We also may want to add a website or phone number. We will ask for examples for the next meeting to see size and color.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none at this time.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Dave Straughn complimented Christa Hill on the write up for Castle Manor. Christa credited the Heritage Center for compiling such information. Mr. Staughn also complimented Dave Eisen for his work indexing all the information about the WPA projects.

Doug Merritt saw an article in the South Bend Tribune about funding for South Bend/St. Joseph County's Historic Preservation Commission. Christa Hill will find and distribute.

Doug asked if there was any updated for the sign at Rosemary's Garden. It was a tie between A and C, which matched the thoughts of the Mayor and Park Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Terry DeMaegd made a motion seconded by Nancy Seidler. The meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Doug Merritt, Chairman

Christa Hill, Secretary