

PEP MEETING
February 11, 2008

President Pam Ruminski called meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Attendees: Pam Ruminski- Pres Joyce Cook- VP
 Peter Steele -- Secretary Tim Stabosz -- Treasurer

Announcements:

- Restore Michiana conference Saturday, March 8, 9am to 4pm at St. Joseph High School, South Bend. This is put on by Historic Landmarks of Indiana. Much information and seminars about restoration. This has been a fun and good one day conference in the past.
- Still waiting for \$450 for ads from the Candle Light Tour.
- Pam suggested we send out a letter to LaPorte businesses about sponsoring Candle Light Tour items such book printing, carriage rides, musicians, etc. Last year it was sent to the banks, credit unions etc. and along with some ad bills.
- Membership dues: \$15 individual, \$25 family, \$50 corporation and \$10 Senior Citizen are due for 2008. Tim has not received very many dues yet. Please send your dues to Tim.
- Still working on membership letter, Peter needs the mailing list to create the letter template.
- **ACTION:** Pam to send Peter current mailing list
- Treasurer's Report: Tim reviewed Candle Light Tour financials and 2007 investment accounts. 2007 overall financials to be reviewed at March meeting.
- Current Balances:
 - LPSB Checking 1/15/2008: \$1770.45
 - Investment Account 1/31/2008: \$32,718.88
- Bruce Johnson will speak at the March meeting on "she who shall not be named."
- Idea and Information Exchange for LP County Tourism Bureau is Thurs, Feb 21st. Pam attending.

Social – No report.

Publicity / Newsletter – no report.

Old Business

1008 Michigan – they rejected our proposal on the offer with the land additional. (see January minutes) We may counter a lower amount if they wanted to keep the land. Both sides wishing to park the matter until April when Ira returns and their new priest is settled in. **It will be very important for members to be at the March meeting to consider another potential offer.**
Tour plaques – deferred.
ACTION: Peter to find article from Old House Journal
Pine Lake Assembly Building
ACTION: Peter to discuss with Brian Dragos, suggest Landmarks grant. (complete)
ACTION: Pam to scan PLA building package and send to Todd to see if they are interested in it.
Belle Gunness memorial marker project: check for \$100 donation was delivered to the Historical Society for the Historical Fund based on last month's motion.

New Business

Previous Minutes: Updated, no motion due to lack of quorum.

Discussed putting on historic research classes – how to investigate the history of your home or another building. To be offered to members or other people who have expressed interest. Want to do a smaller group first to work details. Mary can help at the library, Fern can help at the museum. Possibly two sessions – one at the museum and one at the library. Need a description and course outline. Pam wants it to be "professional" if given to people outside of PEP.

From historic preservation meeting – First Baptist Church purchase fell through. It is designated but potential purchasers want to review the ordinance. Pam suggested to the realtor to put advertising in historichomes.com, Landmarks newsletter, etc. We need to be Historic Landmarks' eyes and ears in

our community.

Discussion about having a PEP top five most endangered list: All present agreed it's a great idea. The list would include structures that are endangered and PEP thinks these properties are desirable, reusable and save-able. Working list is as follows: (note, they are not intended to be in priority order)

- 1) LaPorte Fire Station (Pine Lake Avenue)
- 2) First Baptist Church (Jefferson and Indiana)
- 3) Former Christian Science Church (1008 Michigan)
- 4) Ridgeway Building (707 Lincolnway)
- 5) Old St. John's Lutheran School (A and 3rd)

The Coddington building is another possibility. We need to write a story / press release for this and get it in the meeting notes in the LaPorte Herald Argus or a separate newspaper article.

Meeting adjourned by fiat at 8:43pm by Pam Ruminski.

Next meeting will be Monday, March 10th at 7:00 pm at the Swanson Activity Center.

Visit our website at www.peplaporte.org