

**Historic Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2008
Second Floor Conference Room
11:07 a.m.**

Members present: Mark Beliles, Genevieve Keller, Ingrid Smyer-Kelly
Members absent: Helena Devereux, Steven Meeks, Winston Churchill Gooding, Mary Hill Caperton, Melanie Miller
Staff present: April Johnson

Discussion of August 4 minutes: Ginny suggested we approve the August meeting minutes at the next meeting since Mark is the only person present who was at the August meeting.

Session Topic for Preservation Week 2009

Neighborhood Markers

Since Melanie is not at the meeting today, the committee is unsure where to go with the idea as of now.

Bus Ads

April passed around bus advertisement quotes from Mary Hill's research. The ads would provide advertisement for Preservation Week as well as provide public education about Charlottesville history. There were quotes for ads outside the bus as well as inside. The committee questioned whether or not we'd have to compete with CTS ads and whether or not we'd have to get permission from CTS? The bus ad process is still not too clear.

The committee agreed the inside ads are much cheaper and could be a good option. More questions were asked...we need to know how many buses are the ads placed on?...Will the City waive outside or inside fees?...April suggested exploring the option to request ads on specific bus routes, say the #7 or buses that circulate in the downtown area. Do we want to target an area (who may be more interested in downtown activities)?

The committee also discussed the possibility of keeping signs and changing the every other year or so. What would be our costs to keep an ongoing bus ad campaign as part of the educational component of the committee's responsibilities? Ginny had an idea of having signature art for PW bus ads. A poster contest could go out for public to be involved in the design of ad signs.

Gathering at Court Square

Ginny thought we could use this event to "piggy back" on the main Preservation Week events and move the venue to court square. The issue with doing this is choosing a date that will not compete with the public's interest at Easter Weekend (weekend of April 12th).

The gathering would be open to the public and will provide space for preservation and history activities from related groups. Ideas for the gathering also included an educational forum, local historic authors and book signs. Ginny thought we could include the neighborhood markers

idea by providing a table to begin the process. Neighbors in historic neighborhoods can begin to share their thoughts about their neighborhood marker and ideas about where to place them. The committee agreed this was a great idea to preserve the idea of neighborhood markers. Ingrid thought reenactors for court square would be a good idea. Ginny suggested using less familiar reenactors geared towards historic buildings and environment like Dinsmore (architect). Ginny had another idea that Mark could lead a walking tour from court square to downtown churches and talk about how churches developed around court square on Palm Sunday.

Mark will contact Justin Sarafin for details of the Preservation Week schedule. Mark stated that he will take leadership of the court square event facilitation and will email the committee for a final decision of activities for Preservation Week by Sept. 17th.

Committee Leader Reports:

Education and Public Meetings:

Public Commemoration:

McGuffey State Marker- The committee must decide whether to keep text and change to a local marker or revise text to meet state marker qualifications. From the emails the committee agreed that the text should be revised in-house. Ginny agrees that the McGuffey marker should be a state marker and would like the last sentences of the state's revised text to be rewritten concerning McGuffey "died at UVa" and we should add back information about the YMCA. Could it be the state left that out because there is not real proof that the first college chapter YMCA was in Charlottesville? Mark said he believes he can provide documents supporting this.

Ingrid feels that the submitted text (the text the Historic Resources Committee submitted to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources) is okay as is.

Mark disagrees with the word "secularized" in the states revised text. According to his readings the revised editions of McGuffey's readers still have religious undertones. Mark also feels the tree is not as important to include in text since it is no longer there.

Per Mark, Steve is willing to work on revising text and resubmit for state marker designation.

Mark wants the committee to email remarks and thoughts on wording to himself.

Transit Station Display: Postcards- April passed postcard (before and after) displays around for the committee to review. Helena will work on text to be posted with the postcards, then they will be ready for display.

Publications:

Special Projects:

Other Business:

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm