

LOWELL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MAY 28, 1982

A. CONVENING

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. John B. Duff at the Mack Building, Shattuck Street, Lowell, at 5:15 p.m.

Commission Members Present

Dr. John B. Duff, Chairman
Dr. Patrick J. Mogan, Vice Chairman
Angelike P. Georgalos, Secretary
George Anthes
Herbert Cables
Charles Donahue
Robert Duffy
Edwin Holahan
Armand LeMay
James Linnehan
Richard O'Malley
Robert Paquin
Jerry Rogers

Members Absent

George Duncan
Thomas Hollyday

B. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the April 26, 1982 Commission meeting.

C. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Duff welcomed the new Commission member, Jerry Rogers. Mr. Rogers is replacing Robert McIntosh. Mr. Rogers is the Associate Director of Archeology and Historic Preservation for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C.

D. REPORT OF THE LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Superintendent John Burchill stated that everything was in place for the opening of the Visitors Center at Market Mills tonight, May 28th. He also stated that the tour season is open.

E. REPORT ON THE HERITAGE STATE PARK

Chris Scott stated that nine season park rangers have been hired for the current season. He also stated that landscape and architectural designs are in the final stage for the Pawtucket Boulevard boathouse and that the exhibit design contract is in the preliminary stage. He further stated that the State will provide lights and sound equipment for the summer theatre at Market Mills.

F. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

1. Budget

A copy of the operating and development budget was sent to all Commission members. The Executive Director stated that future funds will depend on the disposition of the FY 1983 federal budget.

James Linnehan, Chairman of the Budget Committee, stated that the World Furniture Building is now the property of the Commission. He also stated that final 15 day notices to purchase have been forwarded to the owners of Martin's and the Early Residence. There was no offer to settle, therefore, eminent domain actions are proceeding.

Superintendent Burchill stated that negotiations were complete with the Proprietors of Locks and Canals regarding the strip of land adjacent to Market Mills Building "B". The property is to be acquired by the Commission and turned over to the National Park Service to be used as a parking lot. He supported the proposal to purchase the land for \$28,075. The Commission will be reimbursed by the Park.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to acquire the parcel of land adjacent to Market Mills Building "B", known as Lot G, from the Proprietors of Locks and Canals at the request of the National Park Service for a price of \$28,075.

The Executive Director stated that the appraisal of Boott Mill Buildings 1, 2, counting house and coal pocket is presently being reviewed by the National Park Service appraiser Mr. Leonard Engler from Omaha, Nebraska. His recommendations are expected in the next three weeks.

2. Personnel

There was no report by the Personnel Committee

3. Cultural

The Cultural Committee convened on May 19th and voted to recommend to the full Commission funding for the women's sculpture proposal not to exceed \$25,000.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, 10 voted for, 2 against, with one member (O'Malley) voting present: That the Commission provide up to \$25,000 for sculpture entitled "Women's Aspirations" by Mico Kaufman and that prior to providing any funds that a fixed price contract be entered into.

Dr. Patrick Mogan stated that a meeting was rescheduled to discuss the proposed "Exploratorium" for the city. More information on this subject will be available at the next Commission meeting.

Jim St. Clair stated that the artists studios will be opening tonight, May 28th, for a preview in conjunction with the National Park Service opening. Mr. St. Clair also stated that the stage has been moved to the Market Street Park. The Chamber of Commerce has arranged a package of performances. The first performance will be on June 24th and weekly for ten weeks.

The Executive Director stated that the Lowell City Council has passed a motion asking the Commission to look into naming the proposed Boott Mill (Boarding House) Cultural Center after Dr. Mogan. Kay Georgalos spoke of Dr. Mogan's contributions and his involvement with the National Park concept as reason to support the proposal. The Department of Interior is being contacted to determine the procedure for naming the proposed facility after Dr. Mogan.

4. Planning

Ray LaPorte stated that construction at Market Mills is progressing rapidly. Much of the work will be completed within ten days, excepting one major aspect, the exhaust system which is worked out by change order. The tenants will complete their work in time for the Grand Opening.

Armand LeMay stated that on May 3, the Boott Mill Boarding House Evaluation Committee selected the following firms as the most qualified out of the 49 submitting qualification statements: Architectural Endevor, Inc.; Boston Architectural Team; Childs, Bertman, Tseckares; Moore-Heder; and Perry, Dean, Stahl and Rogers. All these firms were interviewed at the Commission office on May 20. It was decided that Perry, Dean, Stahl and Rogers be awarded the contract, pursuant to negotiations between the Commission and the contractor. Mr. LeMay explained the process used in determining the eligibility of these firms.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to authorize the Boott Mill Boarding House Technical Review Committee and staff to negotiate a contract with the selected architectural firm, and to return the proposed contract to the full Commission for its approval.

Nancy Bellows stated that the selected firm of Childs, Bertman, Tseckares and Casendino has received a scope of work for Lower Locks.

Ms. Bellows also stated that four sets of 1920 vintage trolley bodies parts have arrived from Australia and are being stored at the National Park Service warehouse on Aiken Street. These parts will be inspected by L.T. Klauder and Associates. The Commission will prepare the bid package for construction of two cars for a late summer advertisement. A Fall contract for the car building is expected and the first car should be operating by Spring 1984. Proceeding with the package depends on money from the Park and Congress.

George Anthes stated that the Planning Committee had reviewed an initial status report of the Preservation Plan. The report was prepared, dated June 1, 1982, and distributed to all Commission members. The Planning Committee requested that the staff prioritize the report. A later meeting will be scheduled to evaluate the revised report.

Richard O'Malley stated that a Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8 regarding the Standards. The Council Subcommittee is hopeful that the Council will recommend the home rule legislation at that time.

G. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director spoke about the opening of the Visitors Center and artists space at Market Mills and the celebration to follow.

H. OLD BUSINESS

Robert Duffy asked about the status of the Whipple Powder Mill. The Executive Director briefed the Commission on his knowledge of the project and will request additional plans.

I. NEW BUSINESS

It was agreed that the next Commission meeting would be held on June 28th at the Mack Building at 4:00 p.m.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, it was voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Angeline P. Georgalos
Secretary