

Friends of City Hall Regular Meeting 5/24/2012

A regular meeting of the Friends of City Hall was held on Thursday May 24, 2012 at the home of Diane Lovett, and was called to order at 6:43 pm by President Judy White.

Prior to the meeting pizza, wine, and beer was enjoyed by all members in attendance in celebration of the start of the envelope restoration work on City Hall.

A toast was offered by President Judy White to the Doyenne of Broadway; may she live to see another 120 years!

Minuets for the April regular meeting were approved.

Bank Balance: We have approximately \$3,473 in our account. Bills were paid for our D&B credibility report, and M1 Productions.

300 Broadway Report: Much progress has been made as to the restoration of the envelope of the building. As the damaged bricks are removed, we are beginning to find that several renovations have already occurred. Samples of bricks removed were available for members to view. It has been revealed that an unusual brick laying technique was used on the building. Inner bricks were laid in a "V" formation with a layer of brick facing them with the rear corners cut off. This technique allows for the bonding of the two layers. The technique is called "cogging" which creates a "dogtooth" pattern, that resembles an ancient Roman Imperial style. It was found that the damaging sealant on the brick was applied on at least five separate occasions over a period of time.

A series of pictures detailing the envelope restoration can be found on our website www.FriendsOfCityHall.com.

Beyond the Veil: Candace from "Beyond the Veil" gave a report on their findings from their investigation of City Hall. A mysterious spirit was found near the Boiler Room. It is thought to be someone who kept the boilers running due to the helmet he wore. The mysterious moving candles are said to attract spirits since they are battery operated. Footsteps were detected in the City Manager's Office, but no images were captured. There are two total male ghosts present in the building. The group would like another opportunity to tour the building in the summer with more equipment. They enjoyed their experience. Members who have not seen the video footage are invited to go to www.BeyondTheVeilRoyal.org to view it.

Donation Jars: The Mason's Jars are beginning to be redistributed throughout the community. A precise list of location needs to be developed, and will be placed on our website.

Heritage Days Update: A report from the Heritage Days Committee meeting held earlier in the day was distributed and reviewed. Good progress is being made in planning for the event. The success of our Michigan Humanities Council Grant application status is unknown. Due to a recent email from the organization, we think we may have been denied funding. We have yet to receive official notice. Members are encouraged to start planning what they will be wearing for Heritage Day(s).

Progress on our application for a gaming license: We have started the process of applying for our gaming license so that we can be eligible for poker fundraisers. The city commission approved a resolution allowing us to do so. A lengthy financial statement is being developed. A motion to alter our bylaws to include the language: "Should this organization dissolve, all of our funds and possessions will be disbursed to another organization. " (or similar verbiage) was passed by unanimous vote. This is required by the state, and will allow us to complete gaming application process. Discussion was had as to the merits of working with the Marine City Music Festival at their poker nights until our application is approved and until we can acquire dates of our own.

Cinco de Mayo: The Cinco de Mayo celebration was a great success. Over \$1,300 was raised. Many thanks to Rudy and his family for their hard work. Also thanks to St.Marks Church for their continued support of our group.

Meeting time and place: Many thanks to Diane Lovett for opening her home for our meeting and celebration. Discussion was had as to when and where to relocate our summer meetings due to scheduling conflicts at St.Mark's Church. It was decided that our meetings will be moved to a rotating list, where each meeting is hosted in a member's home. The schedule is as follows: Thursday June 28th at the home of Bill and Margaret Danneels 361 N. Main, August 23rd at the home of Jim and Kim Turner 206 Westminster, September 13 at the home of Amber Menchaca 412 S. William, and September 27th at the home Judy White 8757 Anchor Bay Dr. Clay Township. All meetings will be at 6:00 pm. There will be no meeting in the month of July.

Amber's plan drawing of City Hall: Amber spent a great deal of time drafting a CAD drawing of the plan view of City Hall and associated grounds for our future use. Many thanks to Amber for her work.

Restoration Completion Party: It is estimated that the envelope restoration will be complete by the end of August. Saturday September 1st was decided to be a good date for the Restoration Completion Party to capitalize on the Music Festival's entertainer already scheduled for that date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
David L. Simpson, *Secretary*