

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE / FRIENDS OF BROADWAY  
DEPEW/CHEEKTOWAGA TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

July 1, 1992

Attendance

(Those present will have \* in front of their names)

Historic District:

* Mr. James S. Keysa	* Mrs. Jean Brunea
Mr. Edward Mikula	* Mrs. Judy Michaels
Mr. Michael Meyer	Dr. Paul Kendall
Mr. William Harnack	

Friends of Broadway:

* Mr. Chris Brunea	* Mrs. Judy Michaels
* Mrs. Jean Brunea	* Mr. James Keysa
Dr. Marlene Redlinski	* Dr. Duane Redlinski
Mr. Michael Meyer	Dr. Paul Kendall
Mr. Robert Deutschlander	Mr. James Delacy
* Miss Kathryn Kochli	Dr. Robert Kling
Mr. William Harnack	Mr. Edward Mikula

HISTORIC DISTRICT

HEARINGS

- Ed Church 46 Central Ave. ReMax Real Estate Office  
Ms. Debbie Rzepka represented Mr. Church. Mr. Church wants to erect a sign for his real estate office at the above address. The sign would be 3' by 15' made of plastic laminate in the colors of white with blue and red lettering. They wanted a back-lite sign but the board said that they would not allow that. At this time there was no Petition for Certificate of Appropriateness submitted to the Board. It was just a discussion as to what Mr. Church would like to do. The Board needed more information as to Village Codes for signs and decided to discuss the matter further at the July 7, 1992 meeting.
- Kurt Kojm for Mr. Tichy 44 Central Ave. Twin Village Music  
No Show from Music Studio
- Daniel Baccari 5481 Broadway  
Mr. Baccari submitted a Petition for Certificate of Appropriateness to the Board. The petition included a drawing of the proposed replacement steps. Voting on this petition will be at the July 7, 1992 meeting because the Board doesn't have enough members for a quorum.

Minutes of June 3, 1992 meeting

Motion by Mrs. Judy Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Jean Brunea to approve the minutes with the "Friends of Broadway" letter attached. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT  
by Dr. Duane Redlinski

- Bank Balance: \$1,091.54
- No Transactions to report this month
- At meeting Mr. Keysa gave Dr. Redlinski checks for \$114.00 and a bill for \$150.00
- Ms. Kochli will take the treasurer's position back

FRIENDS OF BROADWAY

- Ms. Judy Michaels to type up and copy "Thank You" letters to be sent out to confirm membership. Ms. Kathryn Kochli will keep the books for the membership. Mr. Keysa will have his secretary type up return labels for Ms. Kochli to use for the membership correspondence.

Motion by Mrs. Jean Brunea, seconded by Mrs. Judy Michaels to issue a \$75.00 check to the United States Post Office for renewal of the Bulk Mailing Permit. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Signs on Broadway

- Dr. Redlinski removed the "Burma Shave" type signs on Broadway.
- Mr. Michaels repaired the signs, donating his labor and the material bill of \$34.00 will be paid for by the F.O.B.

4th of July

- Ms. Kochli has made arrangements for Mrs. Gieger's Girl Scouts to wear "Stop the Widening" T-Shirts.
- Dr. Redlinski has given T-Shirts for the dunk tank.
- Mrs. Gieger offered to have her Girl Scouts distribute fliers for us if needed in the future.

Fund Raising Letter/Membership Drive

- 3,000 letters were distributed through the Metro Newspaper at a cost of \$150.00
- It was distributed on Broadway from Borden Ave. to Bowen Rd. and on some of the side streets off Broadway
- We have received some responses to the letter, mostly in the form of membership money.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mrs. Michaels brought in a copy of an article in the Parks Report about Depew trying to get on the National Register of Historic Places (see attached)

NEW BUSINESS

- Special meeting with Lucy Brøyer and Larry Gobrecht from SHPO re: Historic District and Broadway on July 7, 1992 at the Museum on Clark St. at 8 P.M.
- Ms. Kochli will order a rubber stamp for the F.O.B. to use with her correspondence

HISTORIC DISTRICT BUSINESS

Property Owners Letter

- Draft letter was given to Gina, she will retype and mail to Bethany House
- We are waiting to talk to Joe at the Town in regards to the new property owners list in order to mail letters to all in the district

Specific Properties

- Rowhouses 5481-83-85 Broadway  
no new info. on the electrical service
- former Dickman-Newberry property  
no new info. other than only one sign now up on property
- Building next to Pete Sweets' garage (on Aurora)  
not in the district  
It's to be torn down and new apartments and garage to be built.
- Masonic Temple  
Is up for sale for \$294,000.00  
Mr. Keysa and others went through the building to inspect as a possible Senior Citizen Center and other uses. Mr. Keysa recommended to the Town to use this building for their center.

COMING MEETINGS

SHPO Meeting

- July 7, 1992 at 8:00 P.M. at the Historical Museum on Clark St.

August Meeting

- Our next meeting will be the second Wed. of the month August 12, 1992 at 7:30 P.M. in the Counsel Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,



Gina Bolender  
Secretary

# Disappointed but not Discouraged in Depew

The State Historic Preservation Office this Spring found that Depew, an Olmsted-designed subdivision, was not eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The subdivision, they found, did not exhibit the qualities and design principles that make the Olmsted firm significant and that the original plan for the village was not substantially executed.

Julia S. Stokes, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation, noted that, "Had the entire village been laid out

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*"Had the entire village been laid out as planned by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, it would be one of the firm's most important contributions to American town planning."*

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as planned by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, it would be one of the firm's most important contributions to American town planning." According to historian Arley Levee, the firm's plans for the village may represent the first time it designed

a community that would encompass both residences and factories. Unfortunately, the grand vision for an ideal c. 1900 company town was never fully realized in Depew. Many of the houses, streets and buildings came into being much

later and did not adopt the original scheme.

A small piece of that plan does exist, however. The Friends of Olmsted Parks and the Depew Taxpayers Association intends to work to preserve that portion, perhaps through the creation of a local preservation district, as a reminder of the larger grand scheme for the village. The Olmsted firm's work in Depew, and the original vision of the town's leaders is a good place to begin to explore, understand and protect Depew's architectural heritage.

## Olmsted Park Preservation Programs Expanded

### *National Park Service introduces many new Olmsted programs*

*Reprinted from the National Association for Olmsted Parks newsletter Spring 1992, Vol. 10, Number 2*

The National Association for Olmsted Parks has been working with the National Park Service on Olmsted and historic landscapes since NAOP's inception. The NAOP is excited to report the recent progress of the Park Service on many fronts regarding landscapes.

Charles Birnbaum, a landscape architect and NAOP member who worked in New York for Walmsley and Co. and, more recently, with Patricia O'Donnell, has joined the staff of the Parks Service as Historic Landscape Architect. This position was previously held by Lauren Meier, now at Fairsted.

The Park Service's National Historic Site at Fairsted, the Olmsted home and office,

is bursting with activities which are important not only in the Boston area, but to people involved in Olmsted and historic preservation work around the country. Fairsted, aside from being the depository of Olmsted maps and plans, has become, under the direction of Rolf Diamant, a major source for information on historic landscapes.

A new film, "From Pencil to Park: Preserving Olmsted Landscapes", co-sponsored by Fairsted and the American Society of Landscape Architects, premiered at the NAOP's Denver conference in May. The 17 minute film focuses on the importance of preserving Olmsted landscapes and their role in enhancing the quality of urban life. Filmed in Prospect Park, the Emerald Necklace, and at Fairsted, it features NAOP members Charles Beveridge, Noni Ames and Katie Jo Johnson. Fairsted is sending twelve copies of the film to the NAOP office for

distribution to interested groups.

Lauren Meier has joined the staff of Fairsted as a Cultural Landscape Architect. In her few years with the Park Service in Washington, Lauren made great strides in establishing an intellectual and administrative basis for historic landscape preservation. We look forward to learning from her work at Fairsted.

The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation has been established at Fairsted as a clearinghouse to provide technical assistance and specialized training for public and private organizations and agencies in the preservation and maintenance of historic landscapes. Lauren Meier will be working for the center along with Charles Pepper, a horticulturist.

In conjunction with the center, an historic plants' nursery for plants now commercially unavailable is being established at the Minute Man

National Historic Park in Concord. The ground breaking is scheduled for summer 1992.

In addition, the new Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, through a cooperative agreement with Harvard's Arnold Arboretum, will obtain technical expertise on plant identification and propagation. In return, the Park Service will assist the Arnold Arboretum to develop visitor programs.

Fairsted has prepared an exhibit showing how the Olmsted Firm functioned. The interior of the Olmsted design office has been recreated for the exhibit. The exhibit can be reconstructed and will hopefully be on view at future conferences.

Fairsted continues its task of conserving the Olmsted maps and plans and making these documents available to the public. Over 1,200 requests for documents are received at Fairsted each year.