

MANISTEE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Meeting of Thursday, February 6, 2014
3:00 p.m. - Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street,
Manistee, Michigan

AGENDA

I Call to Order

II Roll Call

III Approval of Agenda

At this time the Historic District Commission can take action to approve the February 6, 2014 Agenda.

IV Approval of Minutes

At this time Historic District Commission can take action to approve the January 4, 2014 meeting Minutes.

V New Business

Tour of Vogue Theatre

Members of the Commission will take a tour of the newly renovated Vogue Theatre.

VI Old Business

VII Public Comments and Communications concerning Items not on the Agenda

At this time the Chair will ask if there are any public comments.

VIII Correspondence

At this time the Chair will ask if any correspondence has been received to be read into the record.

IX Reports

At this time Staff will give their reports to the Commission.

X Members Discussion

At this time the Chair will ask members of the Historic District Commission if they have any items they want to discuss.

XI Worksession

XII Adjournment



City of Manistee Planning & Zoning Administrator



MEMORANDUM

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TO: Historic District Commissioners

FROM: Denise Blakeslee
Planning & Zoning

DATE: January 29, 2014

RE: February 6, 2014 Historic District Commission Meeting

Commissioners, the next meeting of the Historic District Commission is Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 3 pm in the Council Chambers. We have the following item on the agenda:

New Business:

- Tour of Vogue Theatre – Travis Alden will give the Commission a tour of the newly renovated Vogue Theatre. We will be walking from City Hall to the theatre, so please wear appropriate outerwear.

Enclosed in your packet is a copy of a Press Release from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network *“Michigan Historic Preservation Network, Young Detroit Builders Partner to Teach Preservation Skills”*.

If you are unable to attend the meeting please call me at 398-2805, see you next Thursday!

:djb

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: January 19, 2014
CONTACT: Nancy Finegood
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Michigan Historic Preservation Network, Young Detroit Builders Partner to Teach Preservation Skills

Lansing, MI: Statewide, historic buildings are suffering from a lack of tradespeople who know how to maintain and repair them. Young construction professionals, meanwhile, often struggle to differentiate themselves in an increasingly competitive economy. A partnership between the Michigan Historic Preservation Network and Young Detroit Builders seeks to address both these issues, introducing a preservation-related vocational skills curriculum to an initial class of about a dozen students.

“Can you make a good living doing historic preservation?” asked Jim Turner, owner of Turner Restoration and one of the program’s instructors. “Well, it’s possible,” he declared, as he advised students that specialization — along with hard work and a degree of luck — will be required to carve a niche for oneself in a challenging field.

“The era of a general education, of a liberal arts degree, is over,” said Turner. He spoke to the students at an introductory session in December.

Young Detroit Builders, a YouthBuild USA organization, provides a comprehensive, ten-month academic program — typically leading to a GED — to adults ages 18-24 who did not complete high school. Counseling, leadership training, and a small living allowance are also included. To provide its students with job skills, a construction trades component is a key part of the curriculum.

Many YDB students also serve as AmeriCorps members, contributing community service hours on construction projects around the city and earning an educational stipend.

Shayna Cottrell, who works for Young Detroit Builders as a learning center specialist, also takes classes through the program. “Most people don’t live in newer homes,” she said. “Houses built before 1978 have lead issues, and many houses have older windows. We worked with one student, who commented that the new replacement windows in his houses were drafty and he was still cold.”

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"The instructors are very interested in correlating classroom instruction with the challenges we face in everyday life," added Cottrell one week into MHPN's series of workshops, which began last Tuesday. Cottrell came to Young Detroit Builders to work with its Detroit-based Contractor Incubator Program, and is currently studying for a residential builder's license.

"I'm working to learn the skills I need to be profitable as an entrepreneur," she said.

While some of the program will take place in the classroom, much of it will take place in the field, as students will have the opportunity to participate firsthand in the rehabilitation of buildings around the city. YDB students and MHPN instructors have been invited to participate in ongoing masonry and plaster work at city-owned Fort Wayne, where a collection of military structures dating from the 1850s have suffered from deferred maintenance and are being rehabilitated by volunteers and the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition. YDB maintains partnerships with organizations such as the United Community Housing Coalition, providing home repair services to low-income residents.

Over the past decade, the Michigan Historic Preservation Network has pioneered the introduction of preservation-related trades training to high school students and young adults. In 2006 MHPN instructors inaugurated a preservation skills curriculum at Randolph Career and Technical Center, a Detroit high school, and in 2008 began a collaboration with the Calhoun Area Career Center in Battle Creek, Mich.

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The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is a non-profit organization that advocates for Michigan's historic places to contribute to the state's economic vitality, sense of place, and connection to its past. Field assistance for local preservation efforts is provided by MHPN and may be funded through their revolving loan program. For more information, call Nancy Finegood at 517-371-8080, e-mail finewood@mhpn.org, or visit the MHPN website at www.mhpn.org.