GERMAN VILLAGE SOCIETY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
Sept. 11, 2018

and Fund for Historic Preservation chair; Delilah Lopez, Shiloh Todorov and Nancy Kotting, German Village Society staff

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Heidi Drake.

Public Participation

President Heidi Drake welcomed Michelle Mazeke, who's been managing the Society's Group Tours Committee for the past two years and joined us to share a recap of where things stand and some thought-starters on where the program might go. In 2017, the Group Tours Committee offered tours on a fairly "on demand" basis, accommodating requests for tours if at all possible. That year,109 tours were given an $11,000 was generated in revenue (the tour guides are all volunteer and there are no facility or material needs outside of the use of the Meeting Haus. In 2018, the Committee offered tours during a more limited window, emphasized "standing" (pre-scheduled) tours more and increased the price. So far this year, 30 tours have been given and $2,900 was generated in revenue.

Michelle attributed the declining revenue to a significant decrease in tours outside of the "standing tours" (that was not made by by the standing tours), potentially confusing verbiage on the Society website about the options available, the price increase and ineffective marketing given the Tours' usual audience. She also cited the Columbus City Adventures tours and German Village Walking Tours programs as new-is competitors who may have taken away customers. She noted that the Society's tour prices are in line with those competitors.

She added that while she's interested in continuing the Tours program, she wonders how we should think about tweaking it given these challenges. She asked for the board to send any feedback her way and said she plans to return to the February 2019 board meeting to present her plan for the new year.

Executive Director Shiloh Todorov praised Michelle's level of dedication and self-sufficiency in handling the program.

Joshua Zimmerman asked if there's an opportunity for the Society to strike sponsorship deals with other local tour operators; Shiloh explained that we came to a sponsorship agreement with German Village Walking Tours to list them as a partner on site and direct some online traffic their way. Josh Miller asked if we could work toward having a self-guided tour online; Michelle agreed that would be great. Terri Dalenta asked, given the current climate, if another $11,000 year would be possible to achieve again; Michelle mentioned that it might be a stretch while Shiloh clarified that most of the past few years rarely exceeded $8,000. Kurt Miller suggested concentrating tours only around specific time frames/weekends when we know they might be of

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Committee Reports

Heidi noted that the Committees had submitted their reports in the board packet and asked if there were any Committee activities with additional updates requiring board discussion or approval.

Josh shared an update from the advocacy pillar since it was the board's focus according to the monthly calendar. The Civic Relations Committee has been focused on meeting with City Council to advocate on development issues and organize around Airbnb and scooter use in the neighborhood.

The Parking Committee will be working closely with the City of Columbus next year, since the city plans to evaluate parking in the Village.

The FUN Committee will hold its annual pet parade on Oct. 28. Earlier this year, a slider-making competition had record attendance and the German Village 9 (formerly the German Village Cupcakes) vintage baseball team drew a big crowd and won their last game, as well as walked in the Cincinnati Reds' opening-day parade.

Friends of Schiller is putting on their annual Kindred Spirits men's fundraiser on September 21 - this year, with a gin focus and called Junipalooza.

Greg, co-chair of Art Crawl, shared that this year's event raised just over $27,000 in nes u τ Gr Ň

after eight years. Kurt mentioned that he heard good things from an artist who participated in the

GERMAN VILLAGE SOCIETY

TREASURER'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER, 2018 BOARD MEETING

FINANCIAL STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 2018

CASH BALANCES AS OF AUGUST 31, 2018:

OPERATIONS CHECKING $ 5,808

CONTINGENCY $ 83,502

DESIGNATED FUNDS TOTAL $ 390,351

SIGNIFICANT BALANCES: GERMAN VILLAGE BUSINESS COMMUNITY $ 96,093

FUND FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION $ 124,581

FOR THE GOOD OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD $ 33,180

INVESTMENTS TOTAL $ 84,991

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German Village Society Committee Report

require consideration by the Board or staff for possible response or action? If so, please spell out

timeline. (Could include the need for time/support from GVS staff or volunteers or the need for financial resources, for example.)
No

Ideas or concerns about safety: No

Ideas or concerns about sidewalks: No

Outstanding volunteers of note: Not at this time

Anything else you would like to share with the board? No

Update for September 2018

I hope that you are enjoying the Labor Day weekend!

Monster Bash

It’

Village Singers
September report to the German Village Board of Trustees

Village Singers first rehearsal Monday September 17, 7pm
Here at the Meeting Haus

It's a Marshmallow World
December 8 and 9 production

Board Report / September

Nancy Kotting, Historic Preservation Advocate

What a BIG month for preservation in German Village!

TEA 43206 continued it tradition of supporting preservation activities in the district, AND having fun doing it. A personal thank you to Darci Congrove and John Pribble for all that they do.

I will begin this month's report withyesterday's GVC meeting. If anyone needs proof that concerns with the variance requests contained in the application submitted for the proposed development at 259 E. Livingston. By the end of the application review, the applicant wisely chose to modify the application, removing 8 of the 9 variance requests and modifying the 9

th in such a way and to restore 5 residential properties to their original historic use! The Commission vote to recommend the modified application was unanimous.

The results achieved last night were not a fluke. They were the result of taking a methodical, responsive approach to community organizing and advocacy.

Going forward, such activities will be spoken to via a preservation plan that I have been slowly crafting for the district. It is currently undergoing professional peer review, allowing myself and staff to further refine the project prior to bringing it to a broader audience as it continues through the process of creation.

Why do we need a Preservation Plan you ask? Excellent question! When I was hired, the board and Shiloh had identified a need for us to transparently share our values and create some plans for how we respond to opportunities and challenges.

Our plan is unique – most plans speak to how to preserve an emerging neighborhood that has already lost many buildings and is just beginning to see the signs of new investment. As one of the Nations' premier historic districts and Ohio's oldest, German Village is in a strong position to continue as a leader in preservation and advocacy. This moment in time marks a transition: as a 'mature' historic district with an evolved demographic and economic variables that are far removed from those villagers faced in 1960, our approach to preservation requires updating. One of our many goals with this plan is to not only create a reliable template for expectations going forward but to also bring our activities in-line with the preservation movement nationally. There is a fundamental shift in the approach to preservation across the country, led by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. That shift seeks to orient preservation activities as a more people-centered movement. You will learn more about this transition as the Preservation Plan develops.

In the draft plan, we have sections addressing the methodology, the whys and hows of a people-

and Opportunities'. There are ten sections here addressing specific areas of preservation activity in the district. I would like to share one of these sections with the Board and those reading this report as a preview of the Plan:

Issues and Opportunities

1. Intentional Infill and Development

Data:

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission predicts an additional 1 million residents in addition to the existing population in the 10-county region by 2050.

Not

derived design, now over a century old, is beneficial to the psychological, social and physical health of human beings and are actively replicating it in similar form in new developments across the country. This should only serve to reinforce the need to preserve these attributes within the district.
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published promptly upon adoption by the Board of Trustees of the German Village Society.

12) Society staff is empowered by the Board of Trustees to advocate on behalf of best practices in historic preservation beyond the district when warranted.

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http://forum.savingplaces.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=a8afe694-4ea4-06db-a7d4-3ac98e470904&forceDialog=0

It is recommended that such an ordinance be considered an advocacy priority for the district.

I look forward to sharing more of the plan in the near future.

Additional activities this past month:

-I continue to manage all building rentals;

-I participated in the staff meetings with prospective Ed candidates and look forward to welcoming Delilah to the organization September 10;

-I have met with City Council members E. Brown, Remy and Stinziano to discuss large scale development in the district;

-I will be meeting with Council Member Brown, Page and possibly Tyson in the near future as well;

-I assisted in the celebration for our volunteers on the 17th in the Festhalle. Great event and lots of smiling faces!

-We conducted a very successful pre-Commission planning meeting with close to 30 participants on August 29;

-Our Visitor Center continues to hum along. In August we had 513 visitors and processed 513 packages for our members.

-As staff lead for Monster Bash, we have met a committee several times and the event is shaping up well with all details on schedule. We are working to secure 3 more hosts…

-Staff enjoyed our annual staff appreciation luncheon at Lindey's hosted by Jim Nichols!

-I continue to work on the signage projects including Brickline and the Historic House Plaque program. We are very close to submitting another bulk order of completed house plaques, pending final proof sign offs from property owners. Brickline is now moving forward nicely after some minor delays. Katie

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Kotting September 6, 2018

Chelsey Craig, Manager,

Executivefor seven years. It has been a gift.

Operational Stability

We had another flood in the Schuerer Room on Aug. 10 during heavy rains. It happened in May 2017, too, but a volunteer came on Saturday morning and discovered the damage. This time, I had a chance to observe what was happening and saw that the concrete “vault” between our building and the house to the north was filling with water pouring off of both roofs. David Schooler was able to get up on the roof between bouts of rain on that Friday. He pulled some debris out of our gutters and then they worked. The next day, it flooded again so we had to get Jeff Ruff to help us, as he is the realtor for the home to the north. Those gutters were reconnected to the downspout and now the room is dry. The ServPro charge was about $2800 and was paid by Huntington from the Brent Weimer Fund. Kudos to Jeff and David for helping us solve that!

Advocacy

I’ve heard several members offering high praise for Nancy Kotting and the board of trustees as we manage the conversation, advice and preparation for the Commission testimony on the local apartment project ton Livingston (the hotel is not on the September agenda). We hired Vorys Sater zoning attorney Jill Tangeman to take the group’s questions about the process during the Aug. 29 prep meeting. Notes from her advice were in N4N the next day.

Civic Relations Chair Nelson Genshaft, trustees Marie Logothetis, Joshua Zimmerman and Susan Sutherland, and CR Committee member Eric Vanderson are making the rounds to all Council members with Nancy to share our concerns about the large

to get to their “nos” so they can take this cheap litigation route to a
the court will be based on the Duncan standard –

more plans and blue

I first met Heidi Drake in 2013 when she walked into the Meeting Haus offices and offered her services in “cleaning closets, sorting files, whatever.” She had just moved to Columbus and was looking for a way to get involved. I don’t realize you’re being taught something, but rather walk away feeling you’ve discovered something and made your own important breakthrough. That’s a gift! And she has spent countless hours on the phone, in my office, or around her kitchen island helping me think through issues from preservation to volunteers to event details.

We call our yin-yang “peripheral brain,” each filling the other’s weakness and together better able to see the whole picture.

Heidi is headed to Granville where she and her husband, Larry, are building a home. She’s said repeatedly that Columbus isn’t that far away, and that’s good, because wherever I land next, I intend to recruit her as my very first volunteer. We’ll just wait and see if it’s for her filing skills or her stellar smarts.

Minutes – August 2, 2018

Parks, Public Spaces, and Community Events Committee

Members Present : Chelsey Craig, Katharine Moore, Carol Mullinax, Linda Friedman, Jim Chakeres, Frank Wickham, and Craig Seeds.

In Sara McNealey's absence, Carol Mullinax called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

A move was made that the minutes of the July meeting be adopted. Linda Friedman moved, Katharine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ACTORS' THEATRE

Carol Mullinax reported that, to date, the plays this summer have drawn 13,400 people to the park. While this projects to be lower than last year's numbers for the entire season, primarily due to the huge popularity of Pride and Prejudice, the numbers are very much in line with what we projected for the season

At this point, we are looking at what plays will be performed next year.

GERMAN VILLAGE GARTEN CLUB

Jim Chakares reported that the Club's Third Sunday concerts are going well. The musical groups have been very well received and are drawing large crowds. Due to the size limitations of the park, the Club is unable to market the programs widely due to concerns about attracting too many people. The Gardens by Candlelight Tour is coming up. This year, there are ten gardens on the tour, all located on the southern end of the village.

ST. MARY CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Frank Wickham reported that the Capital Campaign has been modified to include not only the repair of the church but also expansion of the school. The original parish building is being renovated to address the increasing school enrollment. The Specht Center will become classrooms for the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Enrollment for the 2018-2019 school is 300 plus and the Capital Campaign goal is now 7.5 million.

The repair and restoration of the church is on schedule and it is expected that it will be complete by Easter next year.

GERMAN VILLAGE SOCIETY

Chelsey Craig reported that preparations are being finalized for the annual fundraising event, the 43206 Tea, which is being held on Saturday, August 16. This year's theme is Disco. Building out on the Tea this year, on Friday, August 17, the Society is holding a special event to recognize volunteers. All villagers are invited.

RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

Craig Seeds reported that a contractor has been hired to help decrease the number of geese in public parks, including Schiller, and, although the contracted has been expanded, more will need to be done to address the problem.

The city is evaluating whether the fencing surrounding Schiller Park's playground should be repaired or replaced. Craig said that, depending on the choice made, another city department may need to handle it. Jim Chakares asked that should the fence need to be replaced if the city would be able to auction aub(au)-9.yee