

Birge Fountain Committee
Minutes, June 1, 2011
White Memorial Building – Downstairs

Board members present: Chuck Nass (Public Works representative), Linda Loomer (Landmarks Appointee), Rod Dalee, Jim Allen, Roy Nosek, Lynn Binnie and Alan Lockett.

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Mr. Dalee mentioned that the soda blaster wanted to test on his site which would require transporting a cherub. Mr. Dalee was against.

Mr. Nosek confirmed that there were three coats of paint. He recommended we hire a sandblaster for the base. Concern was for the colors of the fountain to match the bronze as it were patina.

Mr. Nosek suggested that if we restore the bronze to the original the surface should be waxed to keep it bronzed. Mr. Nosek preferred cleaning the skin only and coating it with a wax.

The committee discussed color options and decided the original color scheme was the best.

Mr. Nosek discussed creating templates for the repetitive designs in order to speed up painting in the future.

Mr. Nosek suggested that the basin be stripped by the sandblaster. He also suggested that a sandblasting test be done on one of the cherubs. The committee agreed to meet at the time of the sandblasting in order to decide if the cherubs should be sandblasted or not.

Committee discussed where the funds should come from for this restoration. Mr. Nass felt that the work that has been done by his department has been the committed funds from the city.

The committee was in agreement that the restoration of the fountain will need to happen after the 4th of July and before the end of the summer. Mr. Nass said he would remove and store the figurines at the city garage during the restoration.

A motion was made to approve minutes from April 12, 2010. Motion was made by Linda Loomer, 2nd by Chuck Nass. All were in favor.

Mr. Nosek was concerned about maintenance. Mr. Nosek said that Rusty Fero used to maintain the fountain on a daily basis.

Mr. Nass said that someone tries to come by every day and that the caps on the fish get unclogged when they are seen to be plugged.

Mr. Nosek said that the upper bowl urn outlet gets plugged and needs to be unplugged more frequently.

Mr. Nass gave Mr. Nosek permission to clean the fountain, and not to adjust the manifold.

Mr. Nosek requested that muriatic acid be used on the fountain every other week to three weeks.

Mr. Nosek was concerned about surveillance and the spears being bent.

Mr. Nosek requested that a garbage receptacle be placed by the fountain. The committee agreed.

Mrs. Loomer made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Allen 2nd the motion. All were in favor

Next meeting will be when the sandblasting is scheduled.

Secretary

R. Alan Lockett