

Jackson Family Project Committee
Minutes: April 4, 2024
Recorder: Susan Larson-Fleming

Attending: Jerry Stein, Susan Larson-Fleming, Lynn Von Korff, David Frank, Cathy Fitch, Michelle Muthiani, Joe Ring

Tower, Pratt and Historic designation:

Joe Ring was introduced to committee. He noted that work in proceeding on a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Park Board and the City of Minneapolis regarding maintenance of the Tower and the park surrounding it. He also wanted to remind the committee that Pratt School is a contributing property to the Prospect Park Historic District. This designation has in the past discourage developers from purchasing the site. Joe gave a short overview of the Historic District. The Federal government approved the designation and the listing appears on the Department of Interior website. The application for designation was completed by historian Charlene Roise, formerly of Hess Roise. Joe will ask her if she feels individual designation of the Jackson home should be pursued.

Pratt Playground:

Jerry heard from Mauricio Ochoa, MPS architect for the Pratt Playground renovations. Final designs are to be presented to MPS Board on April 16. Unlikely that work will start until Fall 2024.

Jackson Days 2024:

Family members Sharon and Melvin Peters, and Judith Claytor, will attend. Hotel rooms and plane tickets will be reserved. There will be a neighborhood open house with the family on Thursday, May 16, 5-7 at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. More details to follow. Lynn will coordinate notices in the PPA website newsletter and the neighborhood e list. Friday there will be an event at Pratt School. Classrooms are participating in special projects relating to the Jackson story. MPS Social Studies Department has been contacted and they are excited to participate. Pratt teacher Kiah Young-Burns is coordinating Pratt activities. Wilkins Center at the University of Minnesota will not be involved this year. The family also plans to dedicate a gravestone at Lakewood Cemetery, which had been missing from the grave of Amy Jackson.

TPT continues involvement in the project. They are using still photos taken last year by Kyra Nygaard at a national Public TV convention.

Jerry and Susan met with local playwright Harrison Rivers. There is interest in producing a play about the Jackson family.

Jerry is also meeting with videographer Far on Foot. This company took extensive footage at last years event. Editing in progress.

Next meeting: May 2, 2024, 4:30.