The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is pleased to announce and welcome Mark Rodman as its new Executive Director, effective April 15. Rodman succeeds Nancy Finegood, who has served as MHPN's Executive Director since 2002 and will retire from the position in April.

"We are very excited to welcome Mark to the organization," says Denise McGeen, President of MHPN's Board of Directors. "He brings an impressive background in historic preservation, historic property redevelopment, and leadership in the private, nonprofit, and governmental sectors. We look forward to working with him as we continue to grow and evolve our advocacy, education, and preservation investment efforts across the state."

Rodman joins MHPN from History Colorado, the State Historic Preservation Office. As Chief Preservation Programs Officer and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, he oversaw the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the State Historical Fund. Prior to joining History Colorado, Rodman was Operations Manager for the $50 million tax credit rehabilitation of the 600,000 square-foot Revolution Cotton Mills in Greensboro, NC. In 2002-2008, he served as Executive Director of Colorado Preservation, Inc., Colorado's statewide preservation advocacy nonprofit. Previously, Rodman was Director of Operations for Preservation North Carolina and an Operations Manager for Wachovia Bank. He began his career as Operations Supervisor with the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department of the City of Rock Hill, SC. Rodman holds a master's degree in Historic Preservation Planning from Cornell University and an MBA from Winthrop University. *

MHPN Welcomes New Executive Director, Mark Rodman

In its annual effort to explore another of Michigan's wonderful historic communities, the Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) is pleased to present its 39th annual statewide conference this year in Holland, May 16-18, 2019. The conference will be headquartered in the Haworth Inn & Conference Center on the campus of Hope College. This year's theme, “Toolkits and Wheelhouses” considers how communities with long-standing preservation programs have used their preservation tools to protect their resources and navigate pitfalls. Long-time preservationists and those new to the effort will gather to discuss what works, what doesn’t, and how to make preservation an effective tool for their own communities.

The MHPN conference features four tracks of educational programming facilitated by experts in their fields. For example, Track One showcases inspirational projects from around the state. It features an all-conference panel discussion titled “Why Can’t They Just Stay Saved?” Panelists, including city staff members supporting preservation activities, a Main Street/DDA staff member, an attorney with the State of Michigan, and the chief historian with a large regional museum, will share their stories and tools for maintaining “constant vigilance.” Track Two shares information about policies, incentives, services, and best practices required for success. For example, the MHPN again offers its Track Two workshop, “Incentives for Successful Preservation Projects,” which takes an in-depth look at the power of combining financial incentives to bring projects to fruition. This all-morning workshop has proven to be so popular that it is also offered as an individually-ticketed option.

Overseen by the MHPN’s Historic Resource Council, Track Three sessions look at techniques for preserving and restoring historic properties. The Track Three session titled “Wiidanokiindiwag/They Work with Each Other: Digitally Preserving the Sanilac Petroglyphs in Michigan’s Thumb” looks at an innovative preservation method and the partnership between the tribes and the State of Michigan that made it possible. Track Four offers tours of Holland such as, “Sacred Spaces, Special Places: Holland's Houses of Worship” and “Holland’s Residential Highlights + Much More,” which are just two examples. (Continued on page 2.)
Beyond great programming, there is an appealing roster of special events. Two events are free and the public is welcome. Thursday evening’s Opening Reception and Vendors’ Showcase present an opportunity for conference participants and area residents to learn about resources and products for restoring historic buildings. During the evening, guests can bid on auction items and pick up must-have used books. Also free is Friday afternoon’s annual keynote address—“Real Estate is the Name of the Game”—presented by Myrick Howard, President of Preservation North Carolina in Raleigh, North Carolina. On Friday night, the MHPN hosts the 28th Annual Preservation Awards Ceremony.

Individual tickets are available for purchase for other valuable how-to sessions such as “Preservation Funding Sources for Your Toolkit” and Saturday morning’s “Wood Window Workshop for Owners of Old Houses.” Also on Saturday, the 2019 Great Michigan Road Trip—“West Michigan Pike: Beach Towns and History”—includes visits to both well-known and hidden gems of Southwest Michigan during the three-quarters day-long tour.

For more information, scan the QR code, download the brochure at www.mhpn.org, request a copy at admin@mhpn.org, call (517) 371-8080, or register online at www.mhpn.org/registration.

Costs range from $20-$335 for members; non-members are welcome but can enjoy discounted fees if they join while registering. For significant savings, consider applying for a scholarship or volunteer position. You can “Make it a Holland Weekend” by enjoying conference hotel rates through Sunday. All sessions and tours are approved for AICP, AIA, and MCP credits.

The MHPN Nominating Committee and Board of Directors are pleased to present the slate for officers and returning/new board members, to be voted on by the general membership at the May 16, 2019 annual meeting.

First, we would like to thank this year’s outgoing board members. Ken Czapski and Mike Kirk are retiring from the board at the end of their third three-year terms. Chip Windisch is departing at the end of his first three-year term. We are grateful for the leadership these board members have given and look forward to continuing their close relationships with the organization as emeriti board members.

The slate of officers for the 2018-2019 year are:

Denise McGeen, President
David Varney, Vice-President
Chelsea Sturza, Secretary

The Treasurer position does not currently have a nominee.

The Board Development Committee and Board of Directors are pleased to present three new candidates for board membership in May for confirmation by the general membership.

Richard Hosey, Detroit
Richard is the owner of Hosey Development, LLC and a returning member of the MHPN board. His completed projects include Kirby Center Lofts, Detroit Savings Bank Lofts, Capitol Park Lofts, and Farwell Lofts in Detroit. Before pursuing development full-time, Richard was a Sr. Vice President at Bank of America, where he structured and was the lead financier of both the Broderick Tower and the David Whitney buildings in downtown Detroit. Richard’s real estate experience encompasses more than 75 projects, totaling over $2.5 billion in development costs. Richard serves on boards of the Detroit Housing Commission, Detroit Land Bank Authority, Detroit Business Improvement Zone, Detroit Downtown Development Authority, and Michigan Community Capital. (Continued on page 3.)
Marcus Ringnalda, Grand Rapids
Marcus has worked for Wolverine Building Group for 14 years and currently serves as Director of Business Development. In his career, he has managed large-scale historic rehabilitation projects all over the state, including work in Traverse City, Marquette, East Lansing, and Detroit. Marcus is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a BS in Civil & Environmental Engineering. Marcus has acquired an abandoned historic theater in his hometown of Grand Rapids and hopes to rehab the building as a personal endeavor in the coming years.

Annie Rubel, Detroit
A long-time friend and supporter of MHPN, Annie Rubel is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a Master of degree Arts in Public History and a concentration in Historic Preservation. For the last three years, Annie has served as the Site Manager of Fair Lane: Home of Clara and Henry Ford, overseeing the extensive restoration of this National Historic Landmark. Annie is also interested in exploring the role preservation plays in the enhancement of community identity and how it can facilitate equitable development.

Legislative Session = New Historic Preservation Tax Credit Bills by Elaine Robinson

Although almost two years of effort went into passing Senate Bill (SB) 469 and House Bill (HB) 5178, as the lame duck session ended in December 2018, so did the chance of passing these bills. However, the advocacy efforts were not wasted, and new bills were introduced in both the House and Senate just weeks after the new legislative sessions began.

Each of the bills has a new number, SB 54 and HB 4100. The good news is that they already have a lot of bipartisan support. The Senate Bill was introduced by Wayne Schmidt (R-District 37), who introduced the 2018-2019 bill too. There are five sponsors for SB 54: Stephanie Chang (D-District 1), Kenneth Horn (R-District 32), Dale Zorn (R-District 17), Jeff Irwin (D-District 18), and Curtis Hertel (D-District 23).

The House Bill was introduced by Ben Frederick (R-District 85). Supporting the bill are Pauline Wendzel (R-District 79), Sara Anthony (D-District 68), David LeGrand (D-District 75), Steve Marino (R-District 24), Brian Elder (D-District 96), Mike Mueller (R-District 51), Vanessa Guerra (D-District 95), and Scott Van Singel (R-District 100).

With the introduction of the new bills, Michigan preservationists again need to reach out to their local governments, historic district commissions, historical societies, and other interested parties to request a resolution supporting this new effort. If you need assistance with information that should be included in your resolution, MHPN has a sample resolution available at www.mhpn.org/join-mhpn/ad.../miimpact/. When you visit this webpage you will also be able to see which communities and others have already passed resolutions and shared them with MHPN. Thank you to Benton Harbor, East Lansing, Huntington Woods, New Baltimore, Sault Ste. Marie, Southfield, Highland Park Historic District Commission, Pittsfield Charter Township, Leonard, and Oxford!

There is more you can do as a private citizen too. Take this opportunity to reach out to YOUR state senator and representatives with news of your support for these bills. A simple message of “please reinstate the Historic Preservation Tax Credit” will alert your elected official that their constituents care about this legislation and will make them more receptive to other efforts to move the bills to a successful vote. And, don’t forget to let Governor Whitmer know you want this bill passed too. After the bills clear the House and Senate it is up to the governor to make the bills into law!

A Planned Gift is a Gift to the Future
We ask you to consider designating the Michigan Historic Preservation Network as one of the beneficiaries in your will, living trust, retirement plan, or other account. A gift to the future, your planned gift assures that MHPN will continue to protect our state’s cultural resources and keep them a vital part of our lives... just as you have done during your lifetime.

If you’ve already included the MHPN in your estate plan, please let us know. If you’re thinking of doing so, we would be pleased to send you “Making a Charitable Bequest to the MHPN” to share with your advisor.

Contact Janet Kreger, MHPN Fund Development Committee, at 734-222-9310 or kregerj1981@att.net.
To join MHPN, get more information about our organization and its activities, and to see a list of upcoming events, please go to our website at

www.MHPN.org

For Individuals and Households:

_____ $45 Basic Membership

_____ $25 Student (enclose copy of student ID)

_____ $25 Senior (age 60 and older)

For other entities:

_____ $80 Organization/Institution/Government

_____ $140 Historic Resource Council

_____ $150 Historic District Commission or Committee (up to 10 members)

A gift made to the MHPN in addition to your membership is much appreciated.

Please add $________ to my membership as an additional gift.

Method of Payment:

_____ Check enclosed (payable to ‘MHPN’)

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