

K.A.R.E

Kasson Alliance for Restoration

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<http://www.kassonalliance.org>

(Now accepting donations online)

Dear Friends, Members, and Supporters of KARE,

We have had a busy spring/summer. We are sharing the following news with you.

KARE Now Accepts Donations On-Line: You can join KARE or donate on our website at <http://www.KassonAlliance.org>

Dodge County Expo KARE Booth: Our 2nd Annual booth at the Dodge County expo was a great success with a huge crowd and lots of interest from all over the county to learn about and encourage us.

1918 School Window Hanging Event: If you missed our 1918 School Window Hanging event in May, you really missed out! We had a good crowd throughout the day. Citizens of all ages came by to show their support. A huge thank you to Pennie Eisenbeis for her hard work toward giving the Historic school the appearance that citizens are in fact working to achieve as soon as the City of Kasson adopts a Reuse Plan for the School. You need to drive by and see the windows; what a difference they make to the front of the Historic school! Also a big thank you to Levi Livingood (a.k.a Ben Franklin) what an inspiration he was to all who came to see him and listen to his speech on the Historic water tower.

Dodge County Fair KARE Booth: We also had our 3rd annual booth at the Dodge County Fair and again; it was a success for KARE. We had many new people sign up to be members and request information. Citizens from all over the county praised the work KARE is doing and our ongoing advocacy for the communities' citizens.

Mantorville Marigold Days KARE Booth: The last event for the summer will be a booth at Historic Mantorville's Marigold Days, September 11, 12th. We will be set up by the Greek Revival House. Our focus will be the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota's Minnesota Main Street Program, in which we will be promoting the Kasson business

community. Not only does the city of Kasson state in their planning objectives the “revitalization of Main Street“, this also happens to be one of KARE’s stated missions: To preserve local structures that serve as landmarks of the community’s heritage while creating diverse enterprises within and around those landmarks. We are looking for volunteers to help us sit at the Main Street booth and spread the word. Please contact Diane O’Brien Berge if interested (507-365-8324). Mantorville is a great example of how preservation should go hand in hand with the progress of economic development which in turn keeps a community vital. Marigold Days has graciously contributed towards our goals and we want to thank them. See <http://www.marigolddays.com/>

Mayor Meeting, Historic 1918 School: Mayor Tjosaas recently invited KARE Board Members Melanie Leth and Karen McClamroch to a lunch meeting to discuss the 1918 School. The KARE board felt it was a good chance to hear what he had to say on behalf of the City Council. Melanie and Karen left feeling somewhat hopeful that he was listening to the concerns of Kasson’s citizens. The KARE board looks forward to continued discussions and dialogue with the city.

Citizen Task Force, 1918 School: Thank you to the City Council for appointing the Task Force and supporting their extensive April 2010 survey of Kasson’s residents. The survey documented that 58% of Kasson’s citizens request that the actively pursue the renovation and reuse of the historic 1918 Kasson School. With the survey now complete, the citizens, community leaders and business leaders of Kasson request that the City’s next step must be to adopt a plan for the reuse of the historic school. The plan should reflect our community’s values, undertake a systematic and inclusive planning effort and develop a comprehensive architectural program for such reuse; all under the leadership of the Task Force and in consultation with appropriate professionals and community leaders. The Citizens of Kasson are patiently waiting for the City leadership to respond to their wishes.

Kasson Library: The library board has recently discussed the 1918 School as a potential place for an expanded library. Some of the various 1918 School reuse plans and citizen polls the City has requested and/or contracted for list the library as a potential fit for the school or portions thereof. Melanie Leth, Virginia Giese and Jon Tollefson, attended the Library Board meeting on August 4th to show them KARE's support for the libraries' quest for a larger facility and to answer any of their questions about KARE’s mission. If any of you are interested in acting as a liaison with the Library---please contact a KARE board member or email KARE (KassonAlliance@Kmtel.com). In a related matter, at the Council meeting on August 25, the Mayor asked the council to form a library building planning committee.

City Proposal and KARE’s Guidance to the City, 1918 School: A reminder that the Mayor’s June 9 Letter and Resolution along with KARE’s June 21 response can be found on our Website (http://www.kassonalliance.org/kassonschool_reuse-study.htm). Part of KARE's response to the Council states: The Lauber Reuse Study Report should be used as a guide, to help decide an appropriate reuse for the Historic school - whether the project is public, private or public/private. KARE reminded the city that we

are willing to act as liaison between the City and the Library Board, and/or potential developers regarding an eventual adoption of a reuse plan but they (building owners) must adopt a reuse plan. We will continue our efforts, toward a viable project on the historic 1918 building.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS (FROM MINNESOTA DOWNTOWN E-NEWS - VOL. 7 (AUGUST 2010))

Preserve Minnesota! Statewide Historic Preservation Conference

Statewide Historic Preservation Conference by the MN State Historic Preservation Office will be held September 16-17 at the Winona County Historical Society in Winona, MN. [Registration](#) is due by September 10; see [conference details](#). Minnesota Main Street Designated Programs and Associate Member organizations receive discounted registration; email [Emily](#) for more information.

Joint Main Street Workshop

Save the Date! The Joint State Workshop for Main Street Communities in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin will be held November 3-4, 2010 in Dubuque, Iowa. Registration information will be available in the near future.

Blog and Website for Main Street Managers and Businesses

Jon Schallert's [blog](#) and [e-newsletter](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (FROM MINNESOTA DOWNTOWN E-NEWS - VOL. 7 (AUGUST 2010))

Next Legacy Amendment Fast Track Deadline

The next small grants deadline for the [Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grants](#) program is Friday **August 27**, 2010. [Applications](#) available online. Contact the [Grants Office](#) with questions.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Grants in Minnesota Due: October 1st

We have the following matching grant programs available for projects in Minnesota. Please note that these funds are for planning grants. The costs associated with actual "bricks and mortar" restoration of a structure would not be fundable. Applicants must be non-profit organizations or public agencies to qualify for our grant programs. Applicants for the Jeffris Heartland Fund are competing with a regional pool of applications, while competition for the Sweatt Fund is limited to other projects within Minnesota only.

If you are interested in applying for one of our grants, **now is the time to contact the Midwest Office or our statewide Partner, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, to discuss your potential project and obtain assistance with the application process.** We strongly encourage applicants to work with our offices and submit drafts of their applications for review and comment well in advance of the deadline.

Virginia Sweatt Preservation Fund for Minnesota • This fund provides nonprofit organizations and public agencies matching grants from \$500 to \$5,000 (typically from \$2,000 to \$3,000) for preservation planning and education efforts. Funds may be used to obtain professional expertise in areas such as architecture, archeology, engineering, preservation planning, land-use planning, fund raising, organizational development and law, as well as preservation education activities to educate the public, property owners, and business owners. Many organizations have found that Preservation Funds provided the crucial boost to get a project off the ground and attract other potential contributors to the project. The Virginia Sweatt Preservation Fund uses the [Preservation Fund application form](#), eligibility requirements, and application deadlines of February 1, and June 1, and October 1. ***The next application deadline is October 1, 2010.***

Jeffris Heartland Fund • Established by the Jeffris Family Foundation to support the development of important historic preservation projects in the states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Ohio. The fund makes grants in the range of \$5,000 to \$50,000 for Historic Structure Reports and other advanced planning studies. Funds must be matched dollar-for-dollar with cash from sources unrelated to the National Trust and the Jeffris Family Foundation. Established 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations or government agencies in partnership with a 501(c)(3) organization are eligible to apply. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the viability of their project through the submittal of early planning studies, and must be ready for the preparation of a Historic Structure Report, or other advanced planning studies, leading toward a community-centered capital fund drive. Please see the [Jeffris Heartland Fund Criteria for Project Selection](#) for more details on eligibility requirements. The [Jeffris Heartland Fund application](#) is available from the National Trust website. ***The next application deadline is October 1, 2010.***

Feel free to contact the Midwest Office Minnesota Program Officer, Chris Morris, or the Minnesota Field Representative of the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, Erin Hanafin Berg, if you have any questions or require additional information about our grants. They would be happy to discuss potential projects with you.

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National Trust for Historic Preservation
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Feel free to contact KARE with any questions, concerns, suggestions and or donations. Also remember, we are always in need of volunteers!!! Thank You for your ongoing support. See you at Marigold Days!

The Kasson Alliance for Restoration (KARE) is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization formed in January 2007. KARE's membership includes both citizens and supporting businesses. KARE's mission is to preserve Kasson's history, historic buildings, structures and properties to serve as landmarks to Kasson's heritage while being a source of education in the importance of historic preservation.

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KARE Website: <http://www.KassonAlliance.org>

John Lauber's School Reuse Study Team's Website:
<http://kassonschoolreuse.net>

KARE is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places in Kasson that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from the cities' history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, **KARE** helps revitalize the community, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. The **Kasson Alliance** provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to citizens and organizations committed to saving historic places, connecting them to Kasson's history and collectively shaping the future of the communities' stories.

Note: The media is welcome to use all or portions of this announcement and any attachments.

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