

Kasson Alliance Email News, Vol. 4, No. 6; Kasson Alliance for Restoration News, County Fair Booth, Grants

Kasson Alliance for Restoration (KARE) Supporters:

1. KARE's 4th Annual Fair Booth, July 14-18. KARE will host its 4th annual Historic Preservation information booth at the 153rd Dodge County Fair July 14 thru July 18. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked at the booth last year. We need your help again this year. This is great opportunity to meet your fellow citizens. No special skills are needed. Just come and have a good time! You can call or respond to this email to sign up for a shift or more if you like. Please call Karen McClamroch at 507-250-0480 or email Karen directly at kklittlebit2003@yahoo.com. Look for our booth in the ice arena building.

Volunteer time slots from 30 minutes long to an hour or more are available. The dates and general hours for the booth are:

Wednesday July 14 1pm-10pm,
Thursday 15th 12-10pm,
Friday 16th 12-10pm,
Saturday 17th 11am-10pm and
Sunday 18th 12-6pm.

2. 1918 School Reuse Task Force Update: KARE's June 26 press release reported that on June 9, 2010 the City of Kasson passed a resolution and proposal that offered the Kasson Alliance for Restoration (KARE) a partnership in the reuse, rehabilitation and maintenance of the historic 1918 Kasson Public School. KARE responded to the resolution/proposal on June 21. There is nothing new to report at this time. The press release can be viewed at:

<http://www.kassonalliance.org/news.htm>

The October 2009 Historic Properties Reuse Study Report and additional information can be viewed at: <http://kassonschoolreuse.net> or http://www.kassonalliance.org/kassonschool_reuse-study.htm/

Historic rehabilitation creates more jobs because it is inherently labor-intensive instead of material intensive. At a time when unemployment among members of the construction trades is at a high level rehabilitating historic buildings provides good-paying jobs in areas where employment is desperately needed.

3. KARE's 4th Annual Festival in the Park Booth, August 12-15.

KARE will also host a booth at the Kasson Festival in the Park on August 12-15, 2010. More news to follow.

4. Kasson's Main Street: (source: <http://www.mnpreservation.org>):

a. Subscribe to the Minnesota Downtown E-News: The Preservation Alliance of Minnesota has created a special e-newsletter focusing on issues and resources for business owners, elected officials, municipal staff, and citizens concerned about the future of their historic commercial districts. The Minnesota Downtown E-News is published intermittently when sufficient news is compiled. Sign up now by sending your e-mail address to enorthey@mnpreservation.org.

b. Why Reinvestment in our Historic Main Streets Makes Sense: Many of us long for a time when Kasson's Main Street was the thriving commercial and social hub of our community. Established residents talk of going to town for everything they needed, from a can of soup to a car, gasoline to gossip, and all things in-between. Many of us also believe we can reestablish Kasson's Main Street as the **heart of the community**. By stimulating local business development and incentivizing reinvestment, our downtown commercial district can re-emerging as the center of community pride.

The Preservation Alliance of Minnesota has reestablished the statewide Minnesota Main Street coordinating program, a comprehensive, community-driven, economic development program that revitalizes established commercial corridors. Over the program's 30-year history, 2,200 Main Street programs nationwide have leveraged almost **\$50 billion in public and private investment**—a \$25 to \$1 return-on-investment that has created almost 400,000 jobs and 90,000 new businesses. The

citizen's of Kasson with the assistance of their elected officials could utilize this program to benefit Kasson's main street.

What is the benefit of Kasson being a Main Street community? What will the statewide coordinating program (Minnesota Main Street) do for Kasson's downtown district? To answer those questions a Minnesota Main Street Program fact sheet is attached to this email message.

For More Information contact: Emily Northey, Program Coordinator, Minnesota Main Street Program, 651.293.9047 x103, enorthey@mnpreservation.org , www.mnpreservation.org

5. GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (source: <http://www.mnpreservation.org>, Minnesota's Historic Preservation E-newsletter - Volume 7, 2010)

a. Next Fast Track Deadline: The next deadline for Minnesota Historical and Cultural Small Grants of \$7,000 or less is Friday, **July 30, 2010**. Subsequent deadlines are the last Friday of each month until the FY2011 funds are expended.

b. Capital Grants: The State Capital Projects Grants-in-Aid program will distribute approximately \$850,000 in matching grants for the fall grant round to county and local jurisdictions for historic preservation projects of a capital nature. Grant awards range in size from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Pre-applications are required and priority is given to properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places or have been determined eligible for listing. Pre-applications are due **August 27, 2010**, final applications **October 1, 2010**; the Grants Review Committee will meet on **November 9, 2010**. The eligibility requirements and application materials are available here. Contact Mandy Skypala, 651-259-3458.

c. Category-Specific Awards are for existing or emerging projects that fall within specific categories such as arts, broadband, entrepreneurship and more and take place in a community or neighborhood. Communities of all sizes are invited to nominate a project, including neighborhood associations within larger towns or cities. **Comprehensive, Community-Wide Awards** are for existing or emerging efforts in a community or neighborhood, with projects that involve multiple sectors and organizations working together to improve their

community. In this community-wide improvement recognition contest, communities compete with other communities based on population size.

Weaving through all submissions should be evidence of the *Reinventing Minnesota* motto: *Connect, Create, Thrive* -- citizen engagement, collaboration, innovation, creativity, imagination, problem solving, awareness, and information sharing.

For information call Emily Kissane at 651-983-9095, or Jane Leonard at 651-303-5263.

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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Email: KassonAlliance@Kmtel.com

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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