

# Kasson Alliance Email News, Vol. 3, No. 9, 1918 Kasson School Task Force Appointed

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## Kasson Alliance for Restoration ENewsletter

Kasson Alliance for Restoration (KARE) Supporters,

In November the Kasson City Council asked citizens to volunteer to serve on a Task Force to explore adaptive reuse options for the historic 1918 Kasson School. The development of a Task Force was recommended in the recently published Historic Properties Reuse Study Report. See [http://www.kassonalliance.org/kassonschool\\_reuse-study.htm](http://www.kassonalliance.org/kassonschool_reuse-study.htm). Volunteers were required to be voting and tax-paying residents of Kasson. Additionally, they could not have been actively involved in the reuse study process to-date in order to bring a fresh perspective and ideas to the planning process. The Task Force members, who were formally appointed at the December 9, 2009 council meeting, include: Tom and Melisa Ferris, Lohan Kao, Susan Joachim, Jana Nawrocki, Kathy O'Malley, Lonnie Zelinski, and Don Zeller. Alternate members of the Task Force, who cannot vote but could take the place of a voting member who departs, include: Steve Breza and Judy Holm. The first Task Force meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2010.

The Reuse Study was jointly sponsored and funded primarily by the City of Kasson and the Kasson Alliance for Restoration (KARE). The study was also funded in part by a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota. The reuse study was completed in collaboration with a School Reuse Action Committee (SCHRAC). SCHRAC was a nineteen-member advisory committee of area citizens, officials, and technical experts formed to assist with the effort. The final Historic Properties Reuse Study Report, which was developed by John Lauber and Company, was published in October 2009.

John Lauber's team included two architects. They spent one entire day in (and on) the building, examining its structure, exterior envelope, site conditions, spatial characteristics, mechanical systems, materials, and ornamental features. They concluded that the building is eminently reusable stating "It is an asset whose quality of design and construction could not easily be duplicated in Kasson or anywhere else today, and it should not be discarded."

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

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**Kasson Alliance for Restoration**

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