

NATIONAL NEW DEAL PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Feb. 27, 2021

Harvey Smith President Berkeley, CA

Michael Ticktin Vice President Roosevelt, NJ

Chris Breiseth Secretary Ticonderoga, NY

Jan Marfyak Treasurer Rio Rancho, NM

Barbara Dimond Manitou Springs, CO Kathleen Duxbury Ridgewood, NJ **Price Fishback** Tucson, AZ Stephanie Johnson Berkeley, CA Bob Leighninger Oakland, CA David Lembeck State College, PA Linda Lingle Washington, D.C. **Charles Nuckolls** Cincinnati, OH Joseph Plaud Boston, MA T.J. Walker Dillsboro, NC

Kathryn A. Flynn Executive Director Santa Fe. NM

Garrick Landsburg, Director
Historic District Commission-City of Detroit
Woodward Ave. Ste. 808
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Mr. Landsburg and Commissioners,

The National New Deal Preservation Association and its nationwide members join the Brodhead Armory Preservation Society in opposition to the proposed plan of The Parade Co. that could include destruction of the New Deal murals created in 1936 by Edgar Yaeger and David Fredentahl. This outstanding artwork which encompasses this large area with their beauty and the portrayals of a significant part of Detroit's history is most valuable. Based on the purpose of your Commission and your job, we hope that you will carry out the group's expected mission and protect any chance of this historic fine art, as well as the carvings, to be saved from destruction.

Likewise, our mission is to preserve the country's New Deal legacy, through the identification, documentation, preservation and public education about the New Deal's courageous and positive impact on Americans living during that severe Great Depression Era. Therefore we join with your group that must have a similar purpose to honor and protect all that was done to help Detroit citizens that were struggling so hard during that difficult time. Surely you will be able to find an option possibly even via The Parade Co. or otherwise to save them in some form. We support that goal and suggest that someone should, if they haven't already, have a local art conservator examine the murals and give his/her advice to the parties involved.

..>

Our best wishes in your accomplishing the necessary steps to help save these historical gems and accomplishing it in a way that is acceptable to all parties involved. Having the art remaining in public view cam be a tribute to your group and the citizens of Detroit and their families that survived during that difficult time in Detroit and Michigan and the United States. In fact, we could share that "The New Deal is still a Good Deal" because so much of it is still around for us to be proud of as it documents who we were so beautifully.

Respectfully,

Kathryn A. Flynn, Executive Director, Nat. New Deal Preservation Assoc.

cc: Brodhead Armory Preservation Society and our NNDPA membership