

Hi Kathleen,

The National Historic Chemical Landmark Committee just finished its fall meeting. Interesting but long. After we “approve” a nomination it goes on to the ACS staff committee charged with presenting the face of chemistry to the public and to legislators (I forget its name). That committee gives the final stamp of approval. Our committee has as I recall an excellent record in giving ACS brass what they need.

Sophie Rovner, the ACS staff member associated with our committee is Sophie Rovner, who promises to get back to you. She’s fairly new but good in this position. Meanwhile, I gathered some details for you. The ACS pays for the bronze plaque that is affixed to the edifice (usually a matter of negotiation where to put the thing) They also pay for transportation to the ceremony of the ACS president or other significant elected ACS official. Then there are other items that I forgot to ask about—such as the printing of the nicely produced brochure that is handed out at the ceremony and later appears on the landmarks website. (I’ll ask Sophie at dinner tonight.) Then the rest is up to the Section depending on how elaborate a ceremony you want—invited speakers, eats, etc. But Sophie seemed to think that she could develop cost estimates ranging from very simple celebrations to high-end ones. Sometimes the latter are funded by companies or universities where the landmarkable accomplishment occurred.

The committee was happy to hear that YOU personally sounded enthusiastic.

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