

**Committee for Historic Broad Ripple**

Minutes of meeting on October 8, 2008, 6:30 PM

Location: Old National Bank Community Room, 6135 N. College Avenue  
Present: Diane Hitchcock, Sue Zilisch, Karen Brogan, Alice Roettger, Chris Carlson, Sharon Freeland, Alan Hague, Cindy Cunningham, Bridget Carson (briefly to get photos for the Gazette)

**Committee members:**

Karen Brogan	Bill Ferguson	Chad Lethig
Marianne Beck	Rhonda Finney	Lynn Levy
Chris Carlson	Sharon Freeland	Elizabeth Marshall
Bridget Carson	Alan Hague	James Michelson
Cindy Cunningham	Tom Healy	Brenda Rising-Moore
Mark Demerly	Diane Hitchcock	Alice Roettger
Tom Evaniew	Maggie McCullough	J.R. Walsh
John Fager		Sue Zilisch

It was decided to leave the above individuals on the distribution list unless they specifically ask to be removed. Several individuals have done so, but we've picked up some new members.

**Accuracy of these minutes**

If anything is incorrect or misleading, please notify Chris who will make corrections.

**Agenda for the evening**

- Report on Historic Home Tour—Sue Zilisch
- Recap of most recent Broad Ripple Visioning session
- Update on development near 66<sup>th</sup> and Cornell—Sharon Butsch Freeland
- Research check list – Sue Zilisch
- Reports on research assignments – all
- New structures to consider
- Private site on broadripplehistory.com –Alan Hague
- Next meeting

**1. Historic Home Tour—Sue Zilisch**

Sue reported that attendance was down from the previous year, possibly due to the economy plus there were many other things going on that day, providing competition for the Tour. There was a great variety of home styles, revealing a different side of Broad Ripple home architecture and style. Many visitors expressed that they “had no idea” that there were homes like this in Broad Ripple.

Sue agreed that the Home Tour Committee would share structure research with the Committee for Historic Broad Ripple. The two committees are pretty much joined at the hip anyway.

**2. Recap -- Broad Ripple Visioning session #6**

The final visioning session was held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Legion Post on Westfield. Information and ideas put forth will be consolidated and shared with all participants. The next step will be to develop preliminary plans for improving our Village based on input from all six sessions. This has been an exciting and dynamic process and is ongoing.

On a related note, Broad Ripple Avenue is slated to receive some major improvements next year, based on earlier plans. Those plans from the early 2000s did not include a provision for bicycle lanes; however, a petition is circulating requesting that the DMD quickly review the plans and include bicycle lanes before the project is put out for bid next month.

**3. Update on development near 66<sup>th</sup> and Cornell—Sharon Butsch Freeland**

Remonstrators effectively voiced their opposition last month to proposed development on the property at 6548 Cornell. This undesirable building project was defeated. The development would have involved tear-down of a small home and construction of a mixed use building to occupy nearly the entire lot, with an unworkable density.

#### **4. Research & Record keeping check list – Sue Zilisch**

Due to responsibilities with the Home Tour, Sue was not able to put the check list together. She will have something for the next meeting for us to use in our research: basic facts needed, questions to answer and things to look for and inquire about so that we have some uniformity to our work and so that the most important bases are covered.

Regarding record keeping, it was agreed that information on each structure being researched would be recorded by current street name then current street number. This will provide ease and consistency in cataloging, cross-referencing and accessing information.

#### **5. Research Project reports – all**

It was mentioned that the EMT crew will soon vacate our former fire station, and the suggestion was voiced that the building would make an excellent headquarters for the BRVA. It is owned by the City. This structure is on our list for research.

The committee reaffirmed its interest in the eclectic nature of the Village and its desire to save some of the physical representations of the Village's history. Creative adaptation of some historical structures is good. This is not a committee out to save everything.

Sharon reported on some of her findings regarding 6152 College. Most committee members have not had the time to make any progress since the last meeting....various reasons...all legit. ☺

#### **6. New structures to consider**

- a. Streets in Broad Ripple – many have changed name and location, possibly confounding our research. It was agreed that historic Broad Ripple Streets would be include on our list to be researched.
- b. 6152 North College was added. Sharon has begun to get info
- c. also added: the Caboose (JR Walsh's business), Cornell Ave. buildings, all streets.

#### **7. broadripplehistory.com –Alan Hague**

Check out this link [www.broadripplehistory.com](http://www.broadripplehistory.com) to find out what information Alan has already accumulated. He has an enormous wealth of information already researched and on file. Click the "history" duck and at the bottom of that page, Alan has created a site for our committee to store information obtained during our research; we can keep ongoing notes pertaining to our work in progress as well as our downloads and links regarding historic structures in Broad Ripple.. Committee assignments are listed and are cross referenced to information elsewhere on the site....very cool!

#### **8. Other Resources**

- a. The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology website has helpful research information and links. Check it out at: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/index.htm>
- b. Sanborn maps
- c. Indiana Historical Society
- d. Baist Atlas maps
- e. IUPUI
- f. Polis Center
- g. Indiana History Saturdays (last one for the year is October 18<sup>th</sup>... 8 to 10 AM at the BR McDonald's)
- h. Alan has a map showing all the names of streets in Broad Ripple which no longer exist.
- i. Cindy suggested we get access to the IN.gov historic records site. There is a subscription fee, but Sharon will check into having BRVA pay for it so that the committee can access. Cindy will get details to Sharon.
- j. Title Research

k. Abstracts from Indiana Historical Society (on a limited basis)

**9. Next Meeting – please note different day of week and later start time.**

Tuesday, November 11th, 7PM PM  
Old National Bank Community Room  
6135 N. College Avenue

An agenda will be prepared for the meeting to help make the best use of our time and keep us on task. Please forward agenda items to Chris Carlson. If you wish, please bring refreshments to share. (Thanks to all who pitched in on the 8th)