

Committee for Historic Broad Ripple
Minutes of meeting on April 8, 2009, 6 PM
Location: Old National Bank

Present: Diane Hitchcock, Chris Carlson, Sharon Freeland, Margaret Gross, Alan Hague, Alice Roettger, Marianne Beck

Committee members:

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

Accuracy of these minutes

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

Agenda for April 8

- Envision Broad Ripple developments, BR-AVE plans and petitions – Sharon Freeland
- Fire House update, status of petitions – Sharon Freeland
- Research reports – all
- Research resources
- New structures to research
- Other business & concerns
- Next Meeting

1. New Committee Member

We welcomed Margaret Gross to the committee. She lives on Birchwood and heard about the committee and its work through BRVA communications.

2 Envision Broad Ripple developments, BR-AVE plans and petitions

Sharon reported on the Visioning Sessions. Ten have taken place so far and the 11th will be on April 22 at 5:30 PM at the Indianapolis Art Center. On April 15th there will be an open house at the Broad Ripple Park Family Center with a demo of the City's plans for Broad Ripple Avenue. Results of the Visioning sessions will also be presented, and members of BRVA are still hopeful that we will be able to convince the City to make some of the adaptations which have been put forward by BRVA. Basically, the City plans to resurface BR Avenue from Keystone to College, install sewers and sidewalks where needed, make improvements to the alignment of Evanston and add new stop lights.

There will also be some information regarding the BR plan to improve the canal promenade, add gardens and enhance the Village with architecturally interesting lighting and other features.

2. Update on the Fire Station

Sharon reported that no decisions had been made regarding the fate of the Fire House. Stay tuned!

3. Research resources & Tips

Committee members are asking where to find older records pertaining to Broad Ripple from the 1800s. This may prove difficult since they may not have been preserved prior to annexation to Indianapolis in 1922.

Other resources have been compiled and distributed previously to the committee. The committee had a few additions for the list which has been updated and can be found soon on the Broad Ripple History website created and maintained by Alan Hague: www.Broadripplehistory.com.

Alan circulated an old aerial photo of the village circa 1928. He will make copies for each active committee member and distribute at the next meeting.

Parcel numbers! It is important to get parcel numbers and legal descriptions of the structures we are researching. Sue Zilisch can take this information to the abstract and title place.

Every little bit of information is important in that it may provide clues. Do not consider anything to be insignificant. Also, if you find conflicting statements, include both statements but be sure to include attribution.

Sharon Freeland can get census information for us online.

It is requested that committee members email their research results to Alan (alan@broadripplegazette.com) and he will add them to the BR history website. Images should be in jpeg format or pdf. Research notes should be in a word document and should provide as much background as possible. Include unanswered questions, all details even if they seem insignificant, mention contradictions found during research, and give attribution for everything.

Alan will provide an index of Village Samplers and the subjects covered therein. This will be placed on the BR History website. If anyone has any old Sampler or Gazette issues, please give them to Alan.

5. Research Reports

- a. Diane Hitchcock – apartments along Laverock road east of College: The construction date of these is uncertain, but they were built before the annex to Indianapolis. The records she found may not be accurate.
- b. Der Glass Werks – 61st & College, southeast corner: Chris was advised to talk to Alan's dad who lived nearby when the building was a grocery store. It was owned by Harry Claffey who was Sharon's cousin. Chris will continue conversations with the current owners, Kerry and Maryann Byrne.

6. Assignments

Alan will maintain the assignments chart on the BR history website where they will be updated from time to time. Chris will update with today's changes and forward to Alan. Revised assignment chart is also attached to these minutes.

Margaret Gross accepted the following assignments: All homes along the east and west sides of Birchwood (which runs from 61st street to Kessler). Also the former property at the corner of 61st and Compton. It was owned by the Lease family and had a hill with a cemetery and workers' cottages. There are apartments there now. Mrs. Bosson's son (a descendent?) may still be alive.

A new possibility was suggested and has been added to the assignments list, but with no one assigned to research: the double at 61st & Guilford, southwest corner. Two family names were mentioned in conjunction with this property: Bowtwell and Howard (Roger).

8. Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 13, 6:00 PM
Old National Bank Community Room
6135 N. College Avenue

Preliminary Agenda:

Broad ripple development report
New structures to research
Research reports
Other business

A final 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 food or drink to share.

Advice from Alan: Back up your computers!