

Committee for Historic Broad Ripple
Minutes of meeting held June 15, 2009, 6 PM
Location: Old National Bank

Present: Diane Hitchcock, Chris Carlson, Sharon Freeland, Sue Zilisch

Committee members:

Karen Brogan	Rhonda Finney	Chad Lethig
	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 June 15

- Fire Station update – status with City, National Register application
- Research reports
- New structures to research
- Other business & concerns
- Next Meeting

1. Committee Roster

Marianne Beck has resigned from the committee. At the next meeting, we will reassign her research projects.

2 Fire Station update

Sharon reported that there was verbal confirmation from Ryan Vaughan to Elizabeth Marshall that the station will not close and that we will have a low-profile fire truck there from time to time. There has been no official announcement from the City, but there was an article in the most recent Broad Ripple Gazette.

The first public safety day was held June 6th at the Fire Station; it was a big hit with a very good turnout, including lots of kids. A 1965 fire truck was there (owned by Gary Yohler) and there were educational activities. We (BRVA and the Fire Station) are planning for more events like this to help perpetuate the station as a safe haven for the Village.

Chris suggested that we could have an historical plaque placed outside the fire station. Would the BRVA be able to cover the expense of that? Sue Z. will approach the board with that request. Chris will look into costs and other details.

Regarding National Register designation, Sue has not yet been able to get permission to photograph the inside of the Fire Station. Photos are needed to proceed with the application for National Register designation. She will continue to pursue and will get legal opinion about the possibility of us just taking the photos without permission. She also suggested that Paul Diebol (with the DNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology) might be able to help us out with this National Register application. She will contact him.

Chris also suggested the possibility of some area inside the fire station where additional historic information could be presented along with some old memorabilia. Diane H. mentioned the old fire station in Madison; it has a lot of history behind it and also displays historic stuff. Might be good to check it out for ideas.

Chris suggested setting up a special fund within BRAP for the purpose of receiving donations to support Village history/historic programs, promotions and other appropriate activities. Sharon F. will check into this.

Another possibility brought forth by Chris (what's with all these ideas!?!? ☺) was to produce some note cards with

Station history and photos or drawings. Such cards could be sold by various merchants throughout the village with proceeds going to the special historic BR fund. Sharon suggested also bookmarks and other similar items promoting the Fire Station and Historic Broad Ripple.

3. Research Reports

- a. Diane Hitchcock – apartments along Laverock Road east of College, right on the canal: These are called the Village House Apartments and they show up in the 1914 City Directory. She will continue working on this to obtain more information. A project code number will be included. Diane is also putting together some photos for Alan.
- b. Diane had an old photo from the 1970s of a house in old Broad Ripple. She is trying to track down the exact location...perhaps it is on Ferguson. She will share with Alan to see if he recognizes the structure.
- c. Sharon F. reported that Robert Light's original house still baffles her and she is trying to confirm facts surrounding the structure. This house appears in an old BR photo in which the street car tracks are visible looking south on College Avenue.
- d. 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.
- e. It was suggested that pdfs from the Home Tour booklets could be put on the BR Historic website since they contain lots of historic information about the homes which have been featured over the years. Sue and Alan need to talk.

Committee members are reminded to put their research findings into word documents and email them to Alan Hague (alan@broadripplegazette.com) so that the information can be gathered into one central repository for future reference. Photos and other visual information should be emailed to him as a pdf or in jpeg format.

4. New structures to research

It was suggested that the Depot and the Whistle Stop be both added to our list of structures to be researched. It has been done, and a revised list is included with these minutes.

5. Research tools

Chris Carlson will ask Judy Weerts-Hall about old document research: titles, abstracts, all that chain of information. How can we access this information economically for our Broad Ripple history research purposes, not for title searches?

Chris came across some information from the recent Envision Broad Ripple meeting. It is part of a larger document about Broad Ripple Design Guidelines and pertains to the historic context of Urban Structure Guidelines; it is included as a pdf with these minutes.

6. Committee Future

It was agreed that we need to get more people on board who are passionate about BR History. The recorded history of Broad Ripple Village is sorely lacking and desperately needs to be fleshed out. This is the committee to get the job done, but we need more worker bees! Sharon encouraged the group and said we need to keep our meetings going, keep the spirit alive, and keep looking to the future and to the important purpose for which we came together as a group.

Sharon suggested she could do an email blast about this committee, soliciting interested people to come forward and get involved. She could mention the July 8th meeting.

Regarding Alan H's "History Saturdays," could we recruit some of those individuals to serve on this committee? They may also have a significant number of historic photos that could be shared. It was suggested that members of this committee also attend the "History Saturday" gatherings. We will find out from Alan when and where they meet.

It was suggested that Tina Jones be invited to join the committee.

7. Next Meeting

Wednesday, July 8, 6:00 PM

Old National Bank Community Room
6135 N. College Avenue

Preliminary Agenda:

- Fire Station updates (sign, Natl. Register)
- BRAP Fund for BR History
- Abstract & title research
- New structures to research
- Research reports
- Committee Growth
- 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.