

**Committee for Historic Broad Ripple**

Minutes of meeting held October 14, 2009, 6 PM

Location: Old National Bank

Present: Sharon Butsch Freeland, Sue Zilisch, Margaret Gross, Michelle Gammon-Purvis, Kevin See, Chris Carlson

**Committee members:**

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

**Accuracy of these minutes**

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

**Agenda for November 11th**

- Fire Station update:
  - National Register nomination
  - Consultant proposals –Sharon
  - Raising the balance of \$\$ needed
- IN Humanities Council Grant program – Michelle G
- BRVA Canal Days 2010 – CHBR participation? – Sue Z
- BRV 175<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2012
- Research reports
- New structures to research
- Village report – Sharon F
- Other business
  - Aerial BR photos from Alan
- Next Meeting

**1 Fire Station update**

Regarding our plan to nominate the Fire Station for National Register status, Michelle mentioned that the review process can take 6 months to a year. Other sources (Connie Zeigler) have had experiences where the process takes a year or more. There is a technical review where someone checks to make sure that all the pieces of the application are present and in the right format (e.g. photos must be black & white); they do not analyze the data. This could take four months. Then, content review is done by staff which meet quarterly.

There have been no replies to the eight RFP letters sent out by BRVA October 26<sup>th</sup>. A consultant could charge an estimated \$2500 to \$3000 for our project.

Regarding funding, Historic Landmarks could offer our committee as much as \$1500; the committee discussed a plan to raise the balance.

1. A grass roots effort in the Village – describe as a community investment
2. Start after the Dec 12 Holiday BRVA celebration
3. Perhaps put canisters in stores with a poster or other information which describes the purpose. Michelle and Kevin volunteered to head this up.
4. Send direct solicitation letters to selected individuals
5. Get a list of those who signed the “Save the Firehouse” petition (need to check and find out if we promised to not contact the signers for anything)
6. Send a solicitation to the BRVA email list through the email service. Chris will write the comments/letter.

7. Approach the firefighters themselves for contributions. Maybe go through Gregg Harris. Sue Z will contact Gregg.

## **2. IN Humanities Council Grant**

Michelle brought the 2010 Indiana Humanities Council grant application paper work; a scan of that is distributed with these minutes. There is a March deadline, with decisions made in May.

This grant is more for public programs...more event and education oriented, maybe for signs and markers. ( Not appropriate for the National Register nomination.) Maybe a sign or a brochure for the Fire Station after National Register status is approved. Suzanne Stanis at Historic Landmarks would be willing to help us brainstorm some possibilities for our committee.

## **3. Broad Ripple Village 175<sup>th</sup> Birthday (1837 – 2012)**

It was suggested that our committee could help with smaller events in 2010 and 2011 to help build interest and momentum leading up to the 175<sup>th</sup> celebration. Perhaps we could help the BRVA establish the first weekend in June as a “Village Heritage” celebration, or something like that. The BRVA needs to decide what they want to do (for the 175<sup>th</sup>) and let us (BR Historic) know how we can fit into their plans.

Sue Z has a copy of the brochure which was put out for the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday and she will bring copies to the next Committee meeting.

Things we could do now: highlight BR history regularly in the Gazette; build excitement in other ways. Someone suggested an event which could be called “Hungry for History” involving area restaurants and bars located in historic buildings...maybe pick 4 or 5 places. There would be slides and other historic snippets at each place. Kind of a progressive history snack. ☺

## **4. Strategic planning & BRVA Festival and Event Committee**

Elizabeth Marshall is working on a strategic plan for the Village. The Committee for Historic Broad Ripple recommends to the BRVA that they establish an events or festivals committee to spearhead and coordinate all activities of this sort...or at least to plan the 175<sup>th</sup>. There should be some overarching group with authority etc to call the shots and coordinate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration among other events.

## **7. Research**

Kevin See presented some preliminary work on his research into the Whistle stop. Jim Bradford has not returned his call yet. Kevin’s work so far is attached as a word document.

Margaret Gross volunteered to take on research regarding the old McNamara building which used to be the old Monon train repair shop. She will also research the blue double at 61<sup>st</sup> & Guilford.

Committee members are reminded to:

- a. put their research findings into word documents and email them to Alan Hague ([alan@broadripplegazette.com](mailto: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.
- b. Email Sharon F to get the legal description of a property which you are researching. The legal description never changes and is a vitally important piece of information in putting all your research together.

## **8. Village News**

December 12<sup>th</sup> is the Village holiday parade starting at 5:30.

Additional membership income is urgently needed, and the Committee discussed ways they might help. Sharon will email a BRVA membership application to everyone on the Committee email list, and we ask all members to print some copies and keep them with you. Ask everyone you know to join. Also, if you are not a BRVA member yourself, well why not? Join today!!! It is important that we all support our Village and our membership dues help keep things going which benefit us all.

There will be a street event the first weekend in June 2010 to help raise \$\$ for the BRVA.

**9. Next Meeting**

Wednesday, December 9, 6:00 PM  
Old National Bank Community Room  
6135 N. College Avenue

Preliminary Agenda:

Fire Station update: National Register status, other – Chris  
BRV 175<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2012  
Research reports  
New structures to research  
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.