

Committee for Historic Broad Ripple
Minutes of meeting held April 14, 2010, 6 PM
Location: Offices of the BRVA

Present: Sue Zilisch, Karen Brogan, Chris Carlson, Alice Roettger, Sharon Butsch Freeland, Kathleen Blackham, Alan Hague

Committee members:

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

Accuracy of these minutes

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

Committee Roster

If you wish to be removed from the mailing list for this committee, please contact Chris Carlson at ccarlson@butler.edu.

Agenda for April 14:

- Fire Station #32 National Register nomination—update
- IUPUI anthropology & research project-Sue Zilisch
- Historic Landscape and Historic Landscape Architect info
- BRV 175th birthday in 2012 – need committee chair
- Committee expansion
- Next potential NRHP structure
- Research reports
- New structures to research
- Other business
- Next Meeting

1 History Saturdays

Alan Hague reported that “History Saturdays” are starting up again and will be held the third Saturday of the month from 8 to 1-0 AM at the BR McDonalds. They have decided to have a theme each month The next meeting will be on April 17th and the theme is Broad Ripple Park. Alan will mention our committee and see if there is any interest from the History Saturday folks in helping out with the CHBR and/or providing historic Fire Station photos.

2 Fire Station nomination for National Register

Connie Zeigler reported via email that she is on schedule for turning in the nomination packet on May 4th—4 months from the signing of her contract. She continues to research the answers to questions which come up as she writes. Regarding historic photos of the fire house, David Duvall from DNR sent one which is part of the Bass Photo collection, and it was forwarded to Connie; more are needed.

Sharon sent an email blast requesting BR residents to search for old photos.

The Fire Department may have some and sue Zilisch volunteered to ask them.

Alan Hauge also offered to help.

Alan also volunteered to research the NRHP signage for the Fire Station...vendors, styles, costs etc. The sign will need to be made of some material such as cast bronze that will withstand the weather. He will work on getting some information together.

Chris reported that a couple more Firehouse project gifts have been received. The committee is still happy to have the donations since we are not sure how much the sign and any accompanying literature will cost. Several committee members promised to send in their donations as well. Checks may be made payable to Broad Ripple Alliance for Progress to be totally tax deductible. All donors will be recognized next summer at a Firehouse celebration.

All monies raised for the Firehouse through the BRVA postal and email campaign will be spent on services, purchases, programs and activities pertaining to the Firehouse National Register status.

Kevin See was not present to report on the Village business counter-top canister fund raising project, but monies raised through this effort would go toward beautification of the firehouse grounds. That will be made known in the printed materials which accompany the canisters so that donors will know how their gifts will be used.

2. IUPUI Anthropology project (Sue Hyatt)

Sue Zilisch reported that she contacted Sue Hyatt to inquire about the possibility of her doing a neighborhood urban anthropology research project for Broad Ripple...an anthology of recollections and stories from area residents. Ms Hyatt declined to help with that kind of BR history project, but did offer to do a little workshop for us on how to accomplish that ourselves.

3. Historic Landscape and Historic Landscape Architect info

Chris distributed some information from Tina Jones at Indy Parks pertaining to historic landscape architecture and architects. A scan is attached with the minutes.

4. BRV 175th birthday in 2012

Blonde, brazen, bubbly, brainstorming Brogan agreed to put some ideas together on how the Committee might help the BRVA celebrate in 2012.

5. Committee expansion

The Committee welcomed Kathleen Blackham as a new member. Sharon will edit a message which Chris wrote and will do an email blast to BR area residents seeking committee interest. She will send that also to Alan for publication in the Gazette.

6. Next potential NRHP structure nominee?

The seven structures discussed last month were discussed again and the list was narrowed to four. (Whistle Stop, Post Office, American Legion, Vogue Theatre). Discussions pertained to which of these is the most vulnerable to dilapidation or demolition.

The Whistle Stop structure is being newly leased from the owner of that building, but the land owner is separate (the City of Indianapolis). There will be an ice cream shop opening soon.

The Post Office (build ca 1940) may be vulnerable in terms of perhaps being sold by the city and no longer being a post office, but it is not likely that the building will be razed.

The American Legion (64th & College) is a very old building tied strongly to the history of the Village and has had several uses over its long life. The Legion itself as an organization is not very active, and therein lies potential vulnerability for the structure. Also, it sits on a prime real estate location.

The Vogue seemed to be the least vulnerable of the four, although its iconic status is of historic interest.

The committee agreed to concentrate on the following two:

Whistle Stop (Kathleen Blackham will commence research)

American Legion (Alan Hague and Alice Roettger will commence research)

7. Miscellaneous

- a. Kathleen provided a draft of her “Historical Significance Statement” on BR Village. It is a work in progress and still requires some attribution and verification. A scan of her document is attached to these minutes.
- b. Chris has requested from HLF another copy of the Interim Report for Washington Township which lists properties which may be of historic significance. Chad Lethig agreed to provide an additional copy.
- c. The meeting location for CHBR has been changed to the BRVA offices.

8. Research reports

There were no research reports or any new suggestions to add to the list.

9. Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 12, 6:00 PM

Broad Ripple Village Association Offices

6311 Westfield Blvd.

Corner of Westfield and Winthrop...diagonally across from BR Steakhouse

Preliminary Agenda:

- Fire Station National Register nomination update
- Committee expansion
- Research reports
- New structures to research
 - Whistle Stop
 - American Legion
- Other business