

Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2016
4:00 PM

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board held their monthly meeting on the above date at the Old Boone County Clerk's Building, Burlington.

I. **Call to Order.** There being a quorum of the membership present, the meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Wingo at 4:01 PM.

II. **Roll Call.** Review Board members present were Chair Pat Wingo, Vice-Chair Bridget Striker, Secretary Tom Schiffer, Lisa Hoffman, and Pat Fox. Also present was Matt Becher representing the Staff of the Boone County Planning Commission, Assistant County Administrator Matthew Webster, and Sarah Brookbank from The Community Recorder.

III. **Approval of Minutes.** Ms. Fox moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2016, Review Board business meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Striker and approved unanimously.

IV. **Item Updates**

1. **Historic Boone County Column.** Mr. Becher stated that Bridget Striker's article for Black History Month (February) about the African-American connection between Boone County and Oxford, Ohio, appeared in the online edition of *The Boone County Recorder* on February 15. Ms. Wingo noted that she had a draft of an article about Preservation Month (May) for Mr. Becher to submit for publication in late April.

V. **Items for Discussion and/or Action**

1. **Rabbit Hash General Store.** As a followup to the discussion at the March meeting, the Rabbit Hash General Store was heavily damaged by fire on February 13, 2016. Mr. Becher noted that the Rabbit Hash Historical Society (RHHS) has a team in place working on the restoration of the building to its state prior to the fire. Gray & Pape, Inc., is donating Michael Striker's time as project manager and the RHHS has retained Ud Unterreiner as general contractor. Terry Sawyer will be doing the bulk of the construction work. Mr. Becher understands that they have nearly completed the disassembly and storage of all salvageable materials from the building and are waiting on the completion of measured drawings/renderings before developing the restoration plan. The RHHS had scheduled an informational session at the Boone County Public Library (Main Library on Burlington Pike) for Saturday, April 16, to update the public on the project, but postponed it just yesterday (April 13). No reschedule date has been announced.
2. **Review Board Action Plan.** Mr. Becher asked whether there were any further comments or discussion relative to the action plan distributed with the

monthly packet. Seeing none, Ms. Wingo indicated that the plan should be considered finalized.

3. **Review Board Facebook Page.** Mr. Becher commented that per the discussion about social media at the January retreat, he has created a Facebook page for the Review Board. The URL is <http://www.facebook.com/BCHPRB/>. Ms. Wingo, Ms. Striker and himself are co-administrators. He asked that any Facebook users like the page and share it with any person or organization they feel appropriate. It will be used as a platform to spread the word about this year's Preservation Awards.
4. **2016 Preservation Awards: Nominees and Reception.** Mr. Becher noted that the final list of recipients for 2016 Boone County Preservation Awards was distributed with packets and that he has received acknowledgement from most of the recipients on the list. The Awards Reception is scheduled for May 12 and will have a "50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act" theme. Michael Striker has agreed to be the featured speaker and will touch on this theme as well as the Rabbit Hash General Store. This year, the reception will open at 6:30pm, with the program beginning at 7:00pm. Ms. Wingo commented that she will provide drinks and snacks for the reception. Mr. Becher asked for assistance in promoting the event and noted that the Review Board will hold their business meeting at 4:00pm at the Clerk's Building as usual.
5. **Old Burlington Cemetery.** Mr. Becher advised the board that Toddy Jacobs (crew leader for one of the County's inmate jail crews) noticed that the grass at the cemetery was starting to grow long and expressed interest in mowing/maintaining the cemetery. Mr. Jacobs' crew has regularly maintained the Old County Infirmary Cemetery for many years and has mowed other cemeteries, including Old Burlington, in the past. Mr. Webster noted that the County Administration initially had some concerns about this, but felt that it is appropriate given the uniqueness of the situation and the fact that Jailer Ed Prindle is in agreement. **Ms. Striker made a motion to accept the offer for a Boone County Jail Crew to provide routine mowing and maintenance at the Old Burlington Cemetery. Mr. Schiffer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.** Mr. Becher will coordinate with Mr. Jacobs to schedule the work.
6. **John C. Miller House/Piner Property.** Mr. Becher stated that he has received an email from Patti Grace-Jarrett with the US Army Corps of Engineers-Louisville, who is coordinating the MOA process for this project. In her email, she states that "As you know, a condition of the MOA for the Piner/Big Bone III project (LRL-2013-172) was to salvage the barn materials. NKU is proposing to salvage and reuse the materials for the new NKU Stream Program facility in non-structural components, such as interior wall panels or to reconstruct a new barn at the Sleepy Hollow property (another NKU stream restoration project site) as it appears to be impracticable to re-use structural

material in a public building due to liability (No architect/engineer will sign off on the structural soundness of the recycled structural components without major modifications.). There is no constraint for the Sleepy Hollow property because it is owned by a private, non-profit conservancy. We have reviewed this request in the context of the MOA and feel that it is consistent with the intent of the MOA and are ok with this proposal. The KYSHPO has also reviewed and is fine with it.” Mr. Becher discussed the proposal with both Ms. Striker and Ms. Wingo and all agreed that this is a very appropriate use of the materials. Pat Fox (Friends of Big Bone) and Mary Unterreiner (The Boone Conservancy) received the message directly from Ms. Grace-Jarrett and were aware of the proposal. Hearing no objections before 5:00pm, April 12, the Army Corps approved NKU’s request. Ms. Fox asked what steps will be taken to ensure that NKU follows through with the primary task in the MOA relative to the research project for the Big Bone area. Mr. Becher and Ms. Striker both felt that the Army Corps would make sure NKU followed through in order to obtain the site permit.

7. **Wilson Cemetery.** Mr. Becher reminded everyone that back in January, he was beginning to hear rumblings about a move to relocate this cemetery. The cemetery is on the large size for a family cemetery, measuring roughly 50 x 70 feet and estimated to contain at least 20 burials. The site is located in the proposed Ballyshannon Subdivision and was delineated by Jeanine Kreinbrink in 2007, when the development was under a different name. Fischer Homes has retained archeologist Alex Bybee of Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., to manage the cemetery relocation, since it is sited in the midst of a school proposed on the property. With genealogical help from Ms. Striker’s staff at the Library’s Local History Department, Ms. Bybee has reached two descendants so far, one who supports the move and another who does not. She has also indicated the developers interest in moving the interments to another family cemetery (Adams-Riley) located near the south end of the development. While Ms. Bybee stated that she hoped to have the proposal on the Fiscal Court’s agenda as early as April 19, Mr. Becher observed that she has not yet assembled the documentation needed to go before Fiscal Court. He doubted that she would make the deadline for the April 19 meeting, but expects to see the relocation request come before Fiscal Court sometime in the coming weeks.

8. **Other. (A) Spring Demolition Season.** Mr. Becher noted that what he has come to call “Spring Demolition Season” appears to be in full swing as he is being asked to approve at least one demolition permit every week. So far, the historic properties demolished by permit in 2016 include the McKim-Crisler House in Burlington and the Glacken House on Dixie Highway in the Devon area. He had the opportunity to document both properties, although both were in very poor condition. The McKim-Crisler House was a classic case of demolition by neglect, having been left unattended for over a decade while the owner lived in a nursing home. A number of people visited the house with hopes of rehabilitating it, but the damage was simply too great. It was to the

point of being unsafe to go inside. The Glacken House was also in poor condition, although the damage had been done deliberately. The property had been extensively vandalized, apparently in recent months. **(B) Recently Documented Native American Burial Mound.** Mr. Becher reminded everyone about this mound, located in the northern end of the county on property owned by the R.C. Durr Foundation. The owners are seeking an Army Corps permit to allow development of the site, which would impact the mound. The corps is hoping to schedule a Consulting Parties meeting sometime in July. If he is unable to attend, Ms. Striker offered to go to represent the Review Board. **(C) 2004 Petersburg Burials.** Ms. Striker noted that the library has been contacted by Sonny Hensley of Petersburg, a Native American representative who wants to see that the 28 burials excavated from the Petersburg Village Site in 2004 by UK Archaeology are repatriated. Ms. Striker advised him to contact David Pollack at the UK Archaeology Lab. She also noted that there is space to accommodate the 2004 burials in a plot at the Petersburg Cemetery, adjacent to those excavated and reinterred due to the Petersburg Public Water Project.

There being no further business to come before the board, Ms. Fox made a motion to adjourn at 4:56 PM. Ms. Striker seconded and all present agreed. The next business meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board will be on May 12, 2016, 4:00 PM at the Old Clerk's Building, Burlington.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Becher, Rural/Open Space Planner
Boone County Planning Commission

Thomas Schiffer, Recording Secretary

Pat Wingo, Chair
Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board

Date