

**Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 28, 2009**  
**5:00 PM**

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board met in their regular monthly meeting on the above date at the Main Library of the Boone County Public Library.

- I. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Fox at 5:23 PM.
- II. **Roll Call.** Review Board members present were Chair Pat Fox, Vice Chair Don Clare, Secretary Pat Wingo, Hal McFarland, and Bridget Striker. Also present was Matt Becher representing the Staff of the Boone County Planning Commission. Boone County Planning Commission Executive Director Kevin Costello joined the meeting at 5:24 PM.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** Ms. Wingo moved to approve the minutes of the April 2009 Review Board meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clare and approved by all.
- IV. **Item Updates.** Mr. Becher reviewed the Staff Notes in regard to the Item Updates, and added the following comments:
  1. ***Historic Boone County Column.*** Ms. Fox's article about several local preservation efforts was published in the May 28 edition of *The Boone County Recorder*. Ms. Fox also agreed to write an article for publication in June.
  2. ***2009 Race for the Graves.*** Mr. Becher reminded the board that of the mountain bike race at England-Idlewild park, which is scheduled for September 13. All proceeds from the race will benefit the Old Burlington Cemetery Trust. Last year, the race netted close to \$1,500 for the cemetery and he expects a much better turnout this year as the race is the series finale for both the Kentucky state and Cincinnati regional race series. So far, the only major problem he has encountered is the inability of the County's Property Maintenance Department to set up a large tent for the event. He was told that they are "no longer in the tent business." Mr. Becher said he is going to investigate the possibility of renting a tent from elsewhere.
  3. ***Frank S. Milburn Machine Shop Demolition.*** Mr. Becher noted that Judge Moore sent a letter to the University of Nebraska Foundation in later April in which he outlined the County's concerns over the Foundation's wonton demolition of the Milburn property. As of May 28, the Judge had not received a reply from Nebraska. Assistant County Administrator Tim Williams is following up on the issue and will advise Mr. Becher and the board. Ms. Fox stated that she feels that the Review

Board should discuss further action at their next meeting of June 11, depending on how the Nebraska Foundation replies.

4. **2008 - 2009 Certified Local Government Grant.** Mr. Becher advised the board that their grant application for \$15,000 to help fund the county's preservation program in FY 2008-2009 was denied by the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC). This is the first time since Boone County became a Certified Local Government (CLG) in 1986 that a grant request has not been funded, even partially. Mr. Becher received a letter from KHC Executive Director Mark Dennen saying the grant was not funded because Boone County does not maintain any locally designated historic districts. Mr. Becher stated that he and Kevin Costello held a conference call with Mr. Dennen and KHC CLG Coordinator Peggy Guier for clarification. Of that conference call, Mr. Costello noted that the KHC outlined 8 priority areas in their grant criteria and that our grant application met several of them. Only one of these criteria references local historic districts and KHC staff did not make it clear that this criterion apparently carries significantly more weight than the others. Ms. Wingo stated that during her time as Newport's Historic Preservation Officer and Economic Development Officer, the city received such grants every year to help defray administrative costs. Mr. Clare asked how these grants were funded and Mr. Becher said that the funds are Federal and that State Historic Preservation Office's like the KHC are required to redistribute 10% of the Federal funds they receive to local governments in their state. Each state may define the range of projects that can be funded. Mr. Costello said that he feels there is some bias against Boone County because it is not as urban as most of Kentucky's other CLGs, nearly all of which are cities. He explained that Ms. Guier believes the KHC will receive some additional Federal funding for these grants and that Boone County may be eligible for some of those funds provided a revised grant proposal is submitted. Mr. Clare asked whether the board should contact the governor's office and Ms. Fox offered to write a letter on behalf of the board. Mr. Costello and Mr. Becher will develop a new grant request that more closely meets the nebulous criteria established by the KHC. A revised grant application will be submitted in June.

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

1. **Proposed Renaming of the Preservation Craftsmanship Award.** Mr. Becher reminded the board of the email he sent on May 20, where he proposed renaming the annual Preservation Craftsmanship Award after Terry Sawyer. Mr. Sawyer is involved in one or more projects every year that could (or should) win this award and his overall contribution to preservation in Boone County over the last 15-20 years has been significant. Mr. Sawyer was somehow involved in three of the projects receiving 2009 preservation awards. **Ms. Striker motioned to rename the Preservation Craftsmanship award the Terry Sawyer Preservation**

**Craftsmanship Award beginning in 2010. Mr. Clare seconded and the motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Clare stated that he would make the announcement of the award name change that evening during the preservation awards reception.

- 2. Boone County African-American Heritage Project.** Mr. Becher reminded the board that Preservation Kentucky, Inc., is holding funds in trust on behalf of the Review Board to fund this project. Ms. Striker proposed that Melinda Sartwell, who just finished an *Images of America* book for Walton, could prepare a book about Boone County African-American history the board is agreeable. Melinda is an NKU student in History and will graduate in Dec. 2009, then enter the NKU Public History grad program. She researched, wrote and presented the Walton History Walk and also produced the material for the related website. Mr. Clare asked whether the book would be comprehensive and Ms. Striker said that it would cover the whole county. Ms. Fox asked that Ms. Sartwell prepare a proposal for the board to review at the June 11 meeting.
- 3. Other. (1) Preservation Poker Paddle.** Ms. Fox said that the date of May 22, 2010, has been set aside for this event and that she will provide the board with additional details at future meetings.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Wingo moved to adjourn. Mr. Clare seconded the motion and it was approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM. The next meeting of The Historic Preservation Review Board will be on June 11, 2009 at 5:00 PM in the Old Boone County Clerk's Building.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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Pat Wingo, Recording Secretary

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Pat Fox, Chair  
Historic Preservation Review Board

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Date