

Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2009
5:00 PM

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board met in their regular monthly meeting on the above date at the Old Boone County Clerk's Building.

- I. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Fox at 5:05 PM.
- II. **Roll Call.** Review Board members present were Chair Pat Fox, Vice Chair Don Clare, Harold McFarland, Robert Schrage, and Bridget Striker. Also present was Matt Becher representing the Staff of the Boone County Planning Commission.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** Mr. Schrage moved to approve the minutes of the October 2009 Review Board meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fox and approved by all.
- IV. **Item Updates.** Mr. Becher reviewed Item Updates as follows:
 1. ***Historic Boone County Column.*** Mr. McFarland's article was printed in *The Boone County Recorder* on November 5. Mr. Clare has submitted an article about Daniel Boone's 275th Birthday for publication in December and already has other topics in mind. Mr. Schrage said he would consider writing a column for January or February, 2010. Mr. Becher noted that Mr. Clare's submission is the 34th since the Review Board began the monthly column in mid-2006.
 2. ***Frank S. Milburn Machine Shop Demolition.*** Mr. Becher noted that as far as he knew, Judge Moore's office has not yet received a reply to the latest letter sent by the county.
 3. ***Boone County Greenway & Trail Study.*** Mr. Becher advised the board that for various reasons, the Boone County Planning Commission officially shelved this study at their November 4 meeting. They voted not to adopt the study and to discontinue the associated planning process.
 4. ***J. C. Hughes House, 11279 U.S. 42.*** Mr. Becher stated that on October 9, he mailed a letter on the board's behalf to George Budig expressing the board's concern over his application to demolish this c. 1880s house. Mr. Budig replied on October 13 and has agreed to "mothball the residence until such time as we may discover a more viable and cost effective use." Mr. Clare asked whether the board could acquire a bronze plaque for the property and Mr. Becher replied that it would depend on whether there was funding for bronze plaques in 2010.

V. Items for Discussion and/or Action

1. **National Register Nomination: Abner Gaines House Archaeological Site.** Mr. Becher distributed copies of this National Register nomination by email the previous week. He noted that the Kentucky state review board would consider the nomination on December 14 but that it first must be reviewed (and approved) by the county's Historic Preservation Review Board. Mr. Becher briefly explained the purpose of the current nomination, which is to expand the previous National Register nomination (approved in 1980) for the Gaines Tavern to include the site's archaeology. The site area is also being increased from 4.5 acres to the 6.96 acres to coincide with the acreage of the legal parcel. Ms. Striker commented that the nomination looked fine and the maps were good. **Mr. Clare stated that he felt the nomination was excellent and moved to approve it as presented. Mr. Schrage seconded the motion and it was approved by all.**
2. **Boone County African-American Heritage Project.** Ms. Striker and Ms. Fox are planning to meet with Cathy Collopy about possibly directing this research project. They will schedule a meeting for December, once Dinsmore Homestead (Ms. Collopy's primary concern) closes for the season.
3. **Old Burlington Cemetery.** Mr. Becher reviewed the latest statement received from the Huntington Bank (dated 9/30/09), which shows the current balance of the trust fund as \$34,370.46. Mr. Schrage noted that Huntington charges a quarterly fee of \$90 to administer the fund and asked whether there was any reason he could not see if another bank would administer the fund at no charge. Mr. Becher said he would review Judge Ferguson's executive order that assigned the trust fund to Huntington's predecessor and see if there was any reason why another administrator could not be selected. Mr. McFarland questioned the original of the fund and Ms. Striker explained that it was started in the 1950s by local banker Albert B. Renaker and that the Review Board became involved in the late 1990s after learning that the trust fund had been forgotten and that the maintenance of the cemetery had lapsed. Mr. McFarland asked whether descendents were petitioned for financial assistance to maintain their ancestor's graves. Mr. Becher said that descendents do occasionally donate to the trust fund but that a more concerted effort to research and contact descendents would likely generate more donations. Mr. Becher advised that he will ask the County's Property Maintenance Dept to remove some of the dead (and/or dying) trees on the east side of the cemetery and also address the drainage issues along Bullittsburg Road. At one time, they were agreeable to doing so provided that the board would rent a lift boom suitable for the work. **Ms. Fox made a motion authorizing Mr. Becher to put up to \$1,000 from the trust fund toward making these**

improvements. Mr. McFarland seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

- 4. Review Board Winter Retreat - January 14.** Mr. Becher advised the board that he has reserved the Florence Nature Center as a backup site for the retreat in case the board's preferred location – the Thomas Zane Roberts House/Retreat Center is not available. He is in touch with Judge Frohlich about reserving the Roberts House and believes that the group who operates the site will not charge a fee. At the December meeting, Mr. Becher hopes to finalize an agenda for the retreat and also discuss options for dinner/refreshments at the retreat.

- 5. Other (1). Petersburg Ghost & Mysteries Tour.** Ms. Striker recounted the October tours of Petersburg hosted by the library. Tours were conducted on October 16 and 30, but the tour scheduled for October 23 was canceled due to poor weather. About 15 people were in attendance on the 16th but over 85 attended on October 30. The tours were very well received and attendees actually experienced paranormal activity at one of the sites. Petersburg residents were so interested that they have requested a special "residents-only" tour. **(2). December Meeting.** Ms. Fox suggested that board members go out for dinner at the Tousey House following the December Review Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the board, Ms. Fox made a motion to adjourn at 6:05 PM. Mr. Clare seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The next meeting of The Historic Preservation Review Board will be on December 10, 2009 at 5:00 PM in the Old Boone County Clerk's Building.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Pat Wingo, Recording Secretary

Pat Fox, Chair
Historic Preservation Review Board

Date