

Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board
Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2008

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board held their monthly business meeting before their annual retreat on the above date in the Retreat Center at the Florence Nature Park in Florence.

- I. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Fox at 4:13 PM.
- II. **Roll Call** Review Board members present were Chair Pat Fox, Vice Chair Don Clare, Rick Duncan, and Bridget Striker. Also present was Matt Becher representing the Staff of the Boone County Planning Commission. Review Board member Robert Schrage arrived about 4:30PM.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** Ms. Striker moved to approve the Minutes of the December 13, 2007, Review Board meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clare and approved by all.
- IV. **New and Old Business**
 - A. ***Historic Boone County Column.*** Mr. Becher reiterated that he would like to build up a backlog of submissions to help sustain the Review Board's monthly column in *The Boone County Recorder*. Ms. Striker stated that James Duvall, a staff member in her Local History Department at the Boone County Public Library, is willing to write and submit articles. Mr. Clare indicated that he would prefer that he feels that only Review Board members and Staff should write articles and that they can handle the commitment of 10-12 columns/year. Mr. Becher argued that he has to request articles at every meeting and he does not think the board and he can write enough to sustain the column. He also stated that limiting the column to board/staff only would eliminate some very good writers with different ideas (e.g., Cathy Collopy or Judge Tony Frohlich). Mr. Duncan suggested that a good article topic might be to explore the expanded role and capabilities of the Local History Department at the new Burlington library. Ms. Striker agreed and said she could prepare it for February. Mr. Clare said he would supply an article for March.
 - B. ***J. Q. A. Stephens Log House (5572 Rabbit Hash Rd.).*** Mr. Becher followed up on his staff notes, which indicated that this c. 1850 log house was destroyed by fire on December 23, by noting that the remains of the house have been bulldozed and the site prepared for new construction. There was no further discussion.
 - C. ***Proposed Cell Tower Site on Miller-Owens Rd (Duckhead vicinity).*** Ms. Striker discussed the results of research she and library staff have conducted into the historic Baker Farm (15 BE-731), which will be adversely effected by the construction of a cell tower on Miller-Owens Road. Built c. 1870, the house is believed to have been constructed by E. S. West and family, who had relocated to

Walton by 1903. The Bakers have owned the house since at least 1918 and may have occupied it prior to that. While the outbuildings may be architecturally significant, Ms. Striker believes that the true historic significance of the site lies in the fact that the Bakers were one of the few African-American families to own/operate a large farm in Boone County. The Review Board discussed several options for the funds that the cell tower company is being required to put toward mitigating the adverse effect of the tower on the Baker Farm. After some debate, Mr. Clare made the following motion: **Since the cell tower site will impact an African-American farm in Boone County, the mitigation funds should be used to further study the African-American heritage of Boone County in the form of research resulting in publication of a booklet.** The motion was seconded by Mr. Duncan and approved by all.

D. Other. (1) FY 2007-2008 Federal Survey and Planning (aka, CLG) Grant. Mr. Becher advised the board that he has prepared a grant request for Federal Fiscal Year 07-08. The proposal includes two projects. Project A asks for a total of \$13,000 (60% Federal funds and 40% Fiscal Court cash and in-kind match) to conduct archaeological survey of approximately 700 acres in the lower Woolper Creek Valley. Mr. Becher thanked Ms. Fox for contacting land owners along the valley who have agreed to the terms of the survey. Project B requests \$3,000 (\$2,000 Federal with \$1,000 Fiscal Court cash match) to retain an architect to study and design a solution for the leaking roof of the Old Boone County Courthouse. Mr. Becher added that he has contacted officials in nine other counties in Kentucky, Illinois, and Texas where similar courthouses exist and learned that most of these courthouses have leaky roofs. If the grant is awarded, Mr. Becher will forward copies of the architects' plans/recommendations to these other counties. **Mr. Schrage moved to accept the grant proposal as presented. Mr. Clare seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

E. Other. (2) Election of Review Board Officers for 2008. Mr. Becher noted that the Review Board's by-laws require election of officers for the calendar year in January. **Mr. Duncan made a motion to retain Ms. Fox as Chair and Mr. Clare as Vice-Chair. Ms. Striker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Fox moved to adjourn. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion and it was approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM. The next meeting of The Historic Preservation Review Board will be on February 14, 2008 at 5:00 PM in the Old Clerk's Building behind the Administration Building, Burlington.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Pat Fox, Chair
Historic Preservation Review Board

Date