



MINUTES: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)
Meeting of July 26, 2022
City of Bowling Green Administrative Services Building
304 North Church Street, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Members Present: Geoffrey Howes, Chris Mowen, Wil Roudebush, John Sampen, Christina Tracy

Members Absent: None

Staff Member Present: Heather Saylor

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 28, 2022, meeting were approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #3: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Next Meeting Date – August 23, 2022
- B. Historic Preservation Ordinance – Discussion Involving Landscaping
 - a. Discussion of handout from previous meeting regarding 158.09
 - b. Saylor will draft modification for next meeting
- C. Review Educational Session
 - 1. Howes reported on the program on Researching Property History (July 18 at WCDPL). Friend of the HPC Rose Drain also contributed. Resources, including newspapers, indexes, and Sanborn Fire Maps (1882-1962) are available on the WCDPL website <https://wcdpl.org/LocalHistory>

AGENDA ITEM #4: LOCAL DESIGNATION DISCUSSION

- A. University Hall (at Bowling Green State University) - As previously reported, signatures have been obtained. Sampen will contact BGSU President Rogers about coordinating a ceremony (date, type of presentation) with the university when the new West Gateway Entryway is complete. A property inventory is needed.
- B. Wood County Courthouse and (former) Jail – We need a property inventory for our records, even though the courthouse is already listed. Saylor will fill in what we have, M. Sibbersen, Mowen and Roudebush will provide additional information.
- C. Boom Town District (strategic plan goal). Sampen suggested moving forward with individual buildings. Discussion of how to identify properties. Mowen asked which comes first, the inventory or the district boundary of the district. In the national inventory, a general boundary was drawn and adjusted to findings. Roudebush distributed a list of historic themes and suggested we approach the project



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historically, including various eras and information on structures that no longer exist. Sampen mentioned information on Ann Arbor's approach to signage that was sent to us by Friend of the HPC Dick Martin. The possibility of applying for money to bring in consultants was mentioned.

AGENDA ITEM #5: PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Owner request to designate 328 East Court Street (0.1606 acres, Parcel Number B07-511-190313001000) as a historic property on the Local Historic Register, which would include the addition of the Historic Overlay Zoning. Nina Vaughan, property owner, applicant.
 - a. There was no public comment on the request.
 - b. The Commission voted unanimously to forward the request to City Council by submitting a letter that summarizes the criteria.

AGENDA ITEM #6: FRIENDS OF THE HPC

- A. Updates.

Rose Drain has found info about Bowling Green as the Crystal City in the book *Blowpipes: Northwest Ohio Glassmaking in the Gas Boom of the 1880s* by Jack K. Paquette (2002), which includes 39 pages on Bowling Green. Development was encouraged by a bond issue. The term "Crystal City" was self-bestowed. Van Tassell's *The First One Hundred Years of Bowling Green* also has information.

Dick Martin told us that the Wood County Genealogical Society is another resource for local history.

Dale Arnold gave brief information on his experiences with renovation. Gutters have been a problem; half-round galvanized gutters are hard to find. ZTK Enterprises in Toledo is a possible source recommended by Arnold.

Sheryl Peper is researching 707 and 811 W. Wooster

Rose Drain will provide information on Trinity United Methodist Church from its 125th anniversary book, which contains photos and a history of the site.

Dick Martin volunteered to research the First Presbyterian Church.

The Hanna home on Scott Drive, a midcentury modern house from 1952, was suggested as a future building of the month.

AGENDA ITEM #7: INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE PROJECT



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A. Planning – Ad Hoc Committee, Locations, Grant Applications

In planning for interpretive signs, Tracy suggested a phased project, with the first phase being downtown. Mowen and Tracy will co-lead the project and meet during the next few weeks.

Ideas for community involvement: Talk to Marissa at the museum; could schools be involved; what can we do to attract professionals; can social organizations like Exchange, Kiwanis, and Rotary be involved? Tracy offered Juniper as a space for a meeting toward the end of September.

AGENDA ITEM #8: PUBLIC RELATIONS AND EDUCATION PROJECTS

A. Future Workshops/Events

1. "Ohio Open Doors" (September 9-19) WC Library w/ Carter House – We are cooperating with a press release.
2. Audio Tour: Ted Long, a BGSU grad, would like to create an audio tour of downtown BG, possibly before the Black Swamp Arts Festival. The tour would be available through an app and a QR code. A quarter-sheet flyer could be distributed to businesses and placed on the Black Swamp Arts Festival information table.
3. Historic Building of the Month – updates above
4. Workshop on Historic Tax Credits (Winter 2023)
5. "Tell Your BG History" Session – A date needs to be set.
6. Coffee with a Preservationist – no updates
7. "Take a Hike" Program – no updates

AGENDA ITEM #8: LOBBY VISITATION

The group discussed whether the Commission could make statements in favor of preserving landmarks like the South Main School, the ClaZel, the Corner Grill, and the former Women's Club on N. Prospect. Rose Drain also suggested statements on buildings we have lost.

AGENDA ITEM #9: ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mowen adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.


Chris Mowen, Chair


Geoff Howes, Secretary

