

Athens City Historic and Architecture Preservation Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Athens City Hall, First Floor Conference Room
Monday July 8, 2013

A regular meeting of the Athens City Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission was held in the first floor conference room at City Hall at 5:30 PM on July 8, 2013.

1. Call to Order

Paul Logue called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

Present: Keith Chapman, Sarie Landers, Harry Wyatt, Mary Anne Reeves, Joanne Prisley, Cyrus Moore, Guy Philips, Paul Logue

2. Disposition of minutes

Paul distributed minutes from the July 1 meeting. Keith moved to approve the minutes. Sarie seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 12 at 5:30 PM in the front conference room at City Hall.

4. Old Business

The board discussed the election of officers. A chair and vice-chair need to be elected by the voting members per Athens city code. After a general discussion on time commitments and interest Guy moved to elect Mary Anne as Chair and Keith as Vice Chair. Joanne seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Discussion on rules and procedures—membership is covered in ordinance, how to get on agenda, what constitutes quorum. Keith made a motion to define quorum as 4 members with 3 of them being voting members. Cyrus seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The commission discussed potential code changes with respect to board membership. It was expressed that the ordinance should be changed to have a full board of 7 members with voting rights and no alternates. Also discussed was allowing alternates to vote in place of a regular voting member if there is an absence similar to the process with the city's BZA and Shade Tree Commission.

The commission had a discussion on powers and duties section in ACC 45.05 including the inventory of historic structures and districts in town. There are copies of national and state register forms as well as Ohio historic inventory documents scattered around between OHPO, Athens County Historical Society, and Near East Side Neighborhood Association. OHPO should be able to copy on CD for us—Paul will contact Nathan Bevil at the OHPO to check on what they have and if we can get the documents Mary Anne has access to city historic properties on GIS. Paul will work with her to collect. National register

listings should be requested separately. An updated list of historic sites will be compiled for next meeting. Betty Hollow or Alvi McWilliams may have the near east side housing information.

Paul will check with the county GIS coordinator about generating a list of all buildings in the city that are greater than 50 years old. Structures built 50+ years ago can be considered for historic registries.

The commission thought that there should be focused areas to make organizing potential local nominations simpler. Areas to think about included College Street, North Congress, Strathmore, and Sears homes.

General discussion on tax abatements etc. Mary Anne suggested looking at Heritage Ohio programs for owner occupied homes too. Joyce Barrett from Heritage Ohio will be speaking about this at ACHS soon.

Paul has copies of some other community's certificate of appropriateness standards and will share them with Mary Anne.

Last week's homework—Guy talked with CRA person at the state's development office. The Athens CRA is no longer active. Guy would like to work on this program again for Athens. It was generally agreed by the commission that this could be a good way to get more historic preservation throughout the community.

Guy suggesting that the commission should put together a ranked order to what to work on. Each member is asked to provide their individual priorities top 5 for homework. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The commissioners reviewed images from Uptown from the late 1970s and discussed the many changes and improvements that have occurred since then.

6. Adjournment

Keith moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.