

Athens City Historic and Architecture Preservation Commission
Minutes
Athens City Hall, First Floor Conference Room
Monday, September 14, 2015

1. Call to Order—Vice Chair Keith Chapman called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Members present include Joanne Prisley, Jim Sands, Cyrus Moore, Ann Fidler, Guy Philips, Mary Anne Reeves, and Keith Chapman. Paul Logue represented the city administration. Guests include Shawna Bolin, Ohio University campus planner.

2. Disposition of Minutes

The minutes from August 17, 2015 were reviewed by the commission. Guy moved to approve the minutes. Joanne seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 12 at 5:30 PM. Guy made a motion to move the meeting to Oct 13. Jim seconded. All voted in favor.

5. New Business

a. OU Master Plan—Shawna Bolin introduced herself to the commission. Shawna co-chairs the Ridges planning and is directing the master plan. Consultant for the plan is Ayers Saint Gross. The OU master plan is in the 4th of 5 phases. Consultants are testing ideas and needs that came from workshops. The master plan goal is to look at all independent planning efforts out there and put it into a comprehensive document that make sense. This includes housing and Ridges plans. Some programs have significant needs including engineering and medicine. Expect to present a draft plan to trustees in January 2016 and ask for approval in March 2016.

Ridges plan is close to being complete and will be presented to trustees in 2015. The Ridges framework will inform the master plan and future plans for the university. The Ridges advisory committee is reviewing the document right now. Shawna hopes to have draft submitted to trustees for October 2015. The plan identifies primary significant buildings to be saved and used. The university stabilization package for the buildings is underway. Some possible uses identified for the buildings include administration, executive education, lifelong learning, and fine arts expansion. Guy and Cyrus expressed concern about losing the historic brick roads with more activity possibly occurring there.

The master plan includes information on historic buildings on campus and in the city. Trustees desire to see historic character and integrity of campus retained. The university also desires to make all campus buildings accessible. The plan asks what the most significant buildings on campus are. Ann commented on past practices at OU to tear down buildings in the past that were allowed to degrade and deferred maintenance in general. The commission would like to see OU focus on mothballing and protecting the

existing historic buildings. Mary Anne commented on current condition of Cutler Hall. Wilson, McGuffey, and Cutler are getting tuck point and window work currently.

Shawna will send the campus planning principals to the commission.

Shawna didn't have an update on PSAC. She is unsure on what the plan will recommend to the President's house on Park Place. Options may include administrative uses and residential. The commission would like to see the building maintained as the president's residence.

Shawna has agreed to come back on 11/9 to the regular meeting.

b. Mary Anne mentioned that the state office is interested in doing a building doctor program in Athens. Guy moved to submit for the 2016 program. Jim seconded. All voted in favor. The commission would like to do this in early 2016. Paul will forward the info to the commission.

4. Old Business

a. Inventory Project—Paul will work on the inventory forms. Mary Anne will help with this.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.