

Courthouse Preservation Advisory Commission Minutes  
August 10, 2011  
Indiana Government Conference Center  
Conference Room 2  
302 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Commission members present: Chief Justice Randall Shepard, Chairperson; Julie Berry, Indiana Association of County Commissioners member; Brad Bumgardner, Executive Director Parke County Commissioners Foundation; Judge J. Stephen Cox, American Judges Association member; Marsh Davis, Indiana Landmarks President; Dr. James Glass, Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology Director; Fritz Herget, professional engineer member; Ron Ross, Historic Architect Member and Kevin Woodward, Indiana Association of Counties member.

Visitors/Staff members: Ben Ross and Adam Ratcliff of Ratio Architects, Inc.; Tommy Kleckner of Indiana Landmarks; Frank Hurdis, and David Duvall of the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology; Anne Bell, Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs; Shae Kmicikewycz, of Indiana Main Street; Eric Wyndham, DNR Attorney and Susan Judy, DHPA.

***Call to Order:***

Chief Justice Shepard convened the meeting at 1:35 P.M. EDT.

***A. Welcome and Opening Comments:***

Chief Justice Shepard welcomed everyone. He called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 20, 2011 Commission meeting. No issues or concerns were raised.

***B. Approval of April 20, 2011 Commission Meeting Minutes***

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ron Ross and seconded by Fritz Herget. All members approved the minutes as they were written. The motion passed unanimously.

***C. May 25 Meeting of Report Committee with Chief Justice Shepard on Recommendations for Report***

Dr. Glass reported that all the committee members received a summary of the report committee meeting with Chief Justice Shepard. They discussed the recommendations for a good foundation for the report.

#### **D. Submission of Final Draft of Text to Legislative Council, July 28**

Dr. Glass reported that by statute the Commission is required to submit the report by August 1, 2011. Chris Smith, Legislative Director, has suggested submitting the final draft of the text to the legislative council. This was done; the email feedback from the council was encouraging—they were looking forward to the finished report.

#### **E. Presentation of Report in Final Draft Lay-out**

The formal layout was provided by Ratio Architects to Dr. Glass on July 27, 2011.

Dave Duvall, Frank Hurdis and Dr. Glass then studied the draft; in detail noting comments and corrections to give to Ratio.

Ben Ross, Ratio Architects, stated that all the submitted changes had been incorporated and his office will convey any Courthouse Preservation Advisory Committee changes by Friday August 12, 2011.

Chief Justice Shepard commented that he thought the report should have a sub title – such as “saving our communities’ treasures”, “Courthouses as centers of community life” or “saving our state’s historic treasures”.

#### **F. Discussion by Commission**

Judge Cox stated that he would like to see the table of contents and all findings consolidated into one page at the end of the report instead of at the end of each section. Adam Ratcliff, Ratio Architects, indicated that keeping the findings where they are would not leave any blank pages. He thought the findings could be repeated at the end of the report again.

Judge Cox recommended a recap of the findings at the end to make referring back to sections easier.

Fritz Herget asked if the report contains a picture of each courthouse.

Ben Ross indicated that 3-5 courthouses are not represented. (Orange County, Posey County, and Wells.) Pictures of all courthouses from different sources were sought to use in the report, but some images submitted were not usable.

Julie Berry expressed satisfaction with the Jefferson County Courthouse picture.

Chief Justice Shepard indicated that he liked the photos and appreciated how the names were placed next to the photos.

Marsh Davis stated that he wants an additional appendix of photographs of all 92 county courthouses including additional information such as county seats, contact information, county representative, etc.

Kevin Woodward noted that the Wells County courthouse is not represented in the report and he believes it should be since Wells County gave a \$500 toward the project.

Judge Cox speculated that an image of the Wells County Courthouse could be substituted for the Monroe County Courthouse statue image which is duplicated.

#### **G. Action on Acceptance of Report for Submission to Legislative Council**

A motion was made by Marsh Davis and seconded by Judge Cox. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **H. Next Report Milestones**

Dr. Glass noted that the primary remaining issue to discuss was recommendations for printing copies of the report. Glass reported that \$1500 was set aside for printed copies of the report. That would permit 43 perfect bound and 60 spiral bound copies.

Another idea discussed was creating a brochure out of the executive summary.

Marsh Davis asked about out-sourcing costs.

Julie Berry offered to have the Indiana Association of County Commissioners pay for copies to be printed for each of the 92 counties.

Brad Bumgardner indicated that he would pay for a copy for each of the 17 County Foundations that had contributed to the cost of the report.

Marsh Davis suggested getting an estimate for 500 copies from outsourcing (\$12,500 for 500 copies).

#### **I. Distribution and Use of Printed Copies**

Judge Cox stated he thought there should be a copy in each Auditor's office also it should be posted on the Commission Website.

Julie Berry and Kevin Woodward urged the availability of the reports to County Commissioners.

Chief Justice Shepard stated that there are 6 legislators who originally sponsored the commission legislation who are still serving in the General Assembly. He recommended presenting each of the 6 with a report.

#### **J. Meetings with Legislative Sponsors of Public Law 85-2008**

The strategic direction the Commission believed it should take is to try to organize a presentation for each legislator who was a sponsor of the commission bill.

#### **K. Meeting of Natural Resources Legislative Study Committee in September**

Dr. Glass stated that he took the liberty to speak with Chris Smith, DNR Legislator Director. Smith has spoken with the chairman of the legislative study committee and has secured a place to meet with the Study Committee on the September agenda.

#### **L. Indiana Judicial Conference Presentation on Commission's Report, Recommendations, September 22**

Judge Cox spoke with Judge Cody and Judge Moberly about getting on the agenda of the Indiana Judge's Association. He also stated Judge Cody wanted to know how his lobbyist could help.

Since judges work in courthouses, they are very interested in courthouse preservation. Julie Berry and Kevin Woodward believe they can present at the Indiana Association of Counties meeting on September 26-29 September  
In October when the legislators are in town there is a window of opportunity to visit the legislators.  
Judge Cox indicated that will give a presentation at the Indiana Judges Conference on September 22.

**M. Technical Assistance Committee**

Fritz Herget stated he believed there were two requests. The LaPorte County Commissioners have not responded to the letter that was sent them.  
Dave Duvall stated he would check on whether or not there had been a response.  
The Pike County Commissioners also requested assistance according to Ron Ross. He asked for more information but has received no response.  
Fritz Herget indicated that he answered the Pike County Courthouse-Prosecutors Office. Painting and carpets are needed.

**N. Education/Communications Committee**

Diana Hawes was not present to give a report.

**O. Report on Commission website**

Frank Hurdis stated that Jeannie Regan-Dinius continues to update the website with minutes and summaries.  
When the report draft is ready they will add that to the website.

**P. Next meeting:**

The next Courthouse Preservation Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **October 12, 2011** at 1:30 PM, EDT in Conference Room 1, located in the Indiana Government Center South.

Commission Meetings for 2012 are confirmed. All meetings will be at 1:30 p.m.  
October 12, 2011, January 4, 2012 is tentative

**Q. Adjournment**

Chief Justice Shepard called for a motion to adjourn.  
The motion passed unanimously.  
The meeting adjourned at 2:37 P.M. EDT.