

**Irvington Neighborhood Plan
Historic Irvington Committee
March 25, 2004**

Facilitator: Paul Diebold

Attendance:

Members: Dale Harkins, Amy Bomke Keating, Judy Kosegi, Brian Mack, Emily Mack, Ben Younce

Handouts / Visuals at this Meeting:

Irvington Town Hall Meeting, Historic Irvington Discussion Notes
Economic Development Committee Survey
Plan Process Chart

Economic Development Committee Handout that Includes:

Washington Street Corridor Project

The Pennsy Trail

Irvington Historic District

Cultural District Application

Ball State University Project

Rypkema Article – “Commercial Gentrification”

The National Road

Warren Township Interim Report

Building Conditions Survey

Chart that summarizes planning statements made in:

Washington Street Corridor Project

The Pennsy Trail

Ball State University Project

Irvington Town Hall Meeting, Historic Irvington Discussion Notes

Discussion:

1. Committee members introduced themselves
2. Paul Diebold reviewed the Historic Irvington Town Hall meeting minutes and asked for approval.
3. Paul Diebold distributed and explained the Economic Development Committee Participant Survey. Five were completed and returned.
4. Paul Diebold reviewed the plan development process and explained this is the first of three Historic Irvington committee meetings.
5. Paul Diebold passed around handouts and explained the various resources available to the committee for review (*see items in italics above*).
6. Charts summarizing planning statements from previous projects were handed out. Paul Diebold asked everyone to review the statements, goals and objectives and to brainstorm the issues further.

The following ideas were considered:

- Nominating other eligible surrounding neighborhoods to the National Register of Historic Places (Irvington Terrace....)

Visit <http://www.historicirvington.org/> for more information regarding the plan.

- Listing The Lodge and The Irving Theatre individually on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Creating a multiple resources nomination for Tudor Style buildings in Irvington on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Encouraging compatible new uses in vacant historic buildings.
- Ensuring the sustainability of the Benton House, Bona Thompson Center, other historic public resources
- Coordinating uses/missions of Benton House/Bona Thompson Center, etc.
- “Market” the area and historic resources
- Look at other opportunities to utilize and/or support historic sites
- Ensure that community traditions are maintained
- Build “ownership” in the neighborhoods resources and activities
- Explore National Road efforts and coordinate when appropriate
- Raise awareness of Historic Irvington by implementing a welcome wagon program, compiling the history of the neighborhood, developing a community groups “phone book,” educating realtors
- Obtaining funding for the installation of National Road Signs along the Irvington part of the corridor
- Implementing a neighborhood Revolving Fund to preserve houses that are in poor condition, have been divided into multi-family units, are threatened by their current use or demolition.
- Consider the development of covenants to be placed on properties to further protect the historic resources and / or use
- Meet with representatives of the Old Northside, Woodruff Place, Historic Landmarks Foundation to discuss what is involved in setting up a revolving fund.
- Look closely at ways to improve/preserve the outside environment/infrastructure....look at brick streets/alleys, lighting, community landscaping/beautification.
- Develop Community Pride....consider offering “waste bags” in public places so that citizens can pick up trash, etc. while out on walks.
- Explore installation of “Historic Irvington” signs throughout neighborhood
- Explore installation of gateway markers along Washington Street
- Develop a “Historic Irvington” building plaque program
- Create Heritage Tourism/ Walking Tour opportunities
- Compile Resources regarding architecture, history, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, qualified contractors and make available to the public.
- Initiate an oral history project and images collection project

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Irvington Neighborhood Plan, Historic Irvington Committee will be Thursday, April 22 at 6:30 pm at Irvington United Methodist Church.

Notes taken by Amy Bear, Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission

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