

DECEMBER 6, 2011

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
City of Mishawaka, Indiana**

The Mishawaka Historic Preservation Commission meeting was held Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 4:00 PM in Room 205, City Hall. Commission members attending: Dick Barnette, Mike Bultinck, Dave Eisen, Tony Obringer, Dave Vollrath and Cliff Zenor. Absent: Judy Gray and John Gleissner. Advisory Member Dr. William Gering was absent. Staff attending: Peg Strantz, Associate Planner.

**MINUTES:**

The November 1, 2011 minutes were approved as circulated.

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Cliff Zenor, Vice Chair, lead the meeting in Chairman Gleissner's absence.

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**502 Calhoun Street**

Brian Finch and Bill Hawse, owners of 502 Calhoun Street, gave a brief history of their property which they purchased this year. Their fully restored, 1,408 sq ft American 4-Square house, constructed in 1912, is listed as "notable" in the [City of Mishawaka Sites and Structures Survey 1995](#). They were successful with tracing the history of our house, and feel lucky enough to have a complete history of the house. They also met with a member of the original family that built their house. The house was built for telephone company executive and English immigrant, Wilfred Dudding in 1912 as a wedding gift for his bride Gladyce Doolittle. Construction of the house was finished by July 1912. Wilfred and his bride Gladyce, moved into the house soon after their June 1912 wedding. The Duddings lived in the house with their three children until 1945." In 1945 the Duddings sold the house to Celeste Yocum, a teacher at Mary Phillips School. Robert B. Stauffer, an office worker and his wife Mary resided in the house from 1953 through 1957. Russell Trainer, a representative for Testugar Chemical Company and his wife, Elaine resided there is 1958. In 1959 John H. Gautier, an engineer for US Rubber Company, and his wife, Toni DeRamus Gautier purchased 502 Calhoun Street. On September 16, 1994, Lois K. Carder, Ph.D. purchased the house from Toni Gautier. Dr. Carder was an Associate Dean of Production, and Professor of Theatre, for the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts at IUSB. On December 6, 2010 "Calet Partnership" took over ownership of the house. Calet Partnership is a small business owned by Cathryn Ganser and Lyman Samuel; a married couple and retired realtors who live on Calhoun Street, across the street from 502. Calet Partnership's plan was to clean the house up and resell for profit. The end result of Calet Partnership's efforts was a complete restoration of the house. All wall-to-wall carpeting was removed, and the wood floors in every room were refinished. The wood trim inside the house was stripped of any paint, and then refinished. Window sash and chains on all of the original wood windows were replaced, making original wood windows 100% workable again. A first floor walk in closet was converted into a small bathroom. The kitchen was gutted down to the studs and completely rebuilt. Additionally all of the plumbing throughout the entire house was removed and replaced with new pipes. Electricity was added to the garage. The clapboard siding on the house was stripped of paint, and stained instead of being repainted. The house was put on the market immediately following the completion of this work, and sold on May 5, 2011 to Brian Finch and William Hawse, Ph.D. Brian and Bill had hoped to have the house placed on the National Register but do not meet the eligibility guidelines set forth by the State. They said they will consider local landmark status.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

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The Commission discussed at length the following: raising their profile within the city; working more closely with other city units; mission statement; self education/CLG requirements; a realistic annual budget proposal; ask Council what they feel is the role of the HPC, placing blurbs of Mishawaka history in the city's utility bill newsletter.

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The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

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**ADJOURNMENT:      5:02 PM**

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Peg Strantz, Associate Planner

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Cliff Zenor, Vice Chairman