

Athens City Historic and Architecture Preservation Commission
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2022 5:30 PM
Athens City Building, 8 East Washington Street

1. Call to Order—Mary Anne Reeves called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM. Members present included Richard Vedder, Cyrus Moore, Mark Snider, and Reeves. Member John Valentour reported his absence in advance. Quorum was established. Guests included Tom O’Grady and Bob Eichenberg. Paul Logue recorded minutes.

2. New Business

A. Ohio University historic properties demolitions—Tom O’Grady thanked the commission for arranging the meeting. He is concerned about likely demolition of Scott Squad and the old Engineering Building. OU Board of Trustees have approved the demolition and the contract is out to bid. SQ is on the national register of historic places. O’Grady is unsure of any university plans for land after demolition.

Vedder stated that BoT responsible to OU’s cultural heritage among other items according to information on the trustees’ website. He also stated that preservations are late in the game to try and prevent the demo. He believes that one of OU’s most obvious competitive advantages is its historic campus. There are 3 board members who have ties to Athens or are alumni.

Moore reported that BoT minutes state that demolition costs are estimated at \$3.6MM for Scott Quad and \$2.5MM for Engineering.

Eichenberg suggested OU should invite private sector to submit RFPs on how others could utilize both buildings. Board discussed possible private business solutions here. Vedder volunteered to look into this matter more and report back.

3. Old Business—there was none.

4. Announcements and Updates—there was none.

5. Adjournment—Snider motioned to adjourn the meeting. Reeves seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion was adjourned at 6:38PM.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue.

