

Brunswick History Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 2:00pm

Present: Dr. Wayne Allgaier (Chairman), Mr. David McIntosh (Board Member), Peter Wenner (Secretary), Mr. Bruce Funk (Board Member), Mr. Tim Wilson (Board Member), Mr. John Faith (Board Member), Ms. Jackie Ebersole (Board Member), Mr. Ariel Gonzalez (Guest)

The following topics were discussed:

- Business:
 - We agreed to add the following milestones to the timeline and make corrections:
 - Additions:
 1. In 1785, George Washington visited Captain John Smith's residence, coinciding with the establishment of the Potomack Canal Company. This visit was significant because Smith's father, Leonard, had a vision of making Berlin a key port on the future canal.
 2. The 1924 flood contributed to the closure of the C&O Canal.
 3. The opening of Brunswick Heights in 1972 marked the first housing development on former farmland within the city limits.
 4. The Roundhouse was built in 1907 with extra stalls added in 1910.
 5. In 2024, the police department moved to the Municipal Operations Center, resulting in the consolidation of the police, public works, and planning departments.
 6. The coming development of the Cooper farm in 2026
 - Corrections:
 1. Scheer Stadium was opened in 1928, not 1920.
 2. The shopping center opened in 1986, not 1988.
 - John F suggested as a future project that we create a "deep dive" booklet based on the timeline. There was general agreement among the board.
- History Discussion:
 - There is still some conflicting information on C.F. Wenner's original store on the canal:
 - C.F. Wenner reportedly came to Berlin in 1853.
 - He bought lots 31-32 from a Mr. McPherson, who owned several lots and islands, dating to 1837.
 - In an 1864 letter from Wenner, he wrote that he was given permission by McPherson to build a shack on McPherson's property in 1841.
 - Bruce mentioned that Wenner private-labeled C.F. Wenner's Choice Family Flour from a mill in Loudoun County.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.