

East Brandywine Historical Commission Meeting January 9, 2019

Present: John Black, Jim Buczala, Sharon Buczala, Mark Myers, Francis Taraschi and Bob Renken

Meeting opened at 7:05 pm; Adjourned at 8:00 pm

Minutes of previous month's meeting

A motion to approve minutes, as amended, by Jim B. and seconded by Bob R. The motion was passed.

Smith Parcel (HR-109), 1387 Horseshoe Pike

Barn and house on property. Potential buyer looking at property wants to convert the barn into a single-family dwelling, and continue the use of the existing dwelling as a 2-unit apartment. The client's son would occupy one of the apartment units. Will need to apply for a zoning variance as this would make 3 dwelling units on the property.

Dowlin House (HR-45), 205 Township Road

John Rathfon (Metropolitan engineer) has submitted a permit application to close up the structure. Permit for new metal roof has been approved. Still plan to do other work at a later date.

Weaver Tract Development (HR-170), 1234 Horseshoe Pike

- Jim B. took Historical Commission recommendations regarding the Land Development Plan to the Planning Commission meeting. The items presented were:
 - Be sure that NVR is aware of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission letter to them, dated April 2017, which presents some recommendations for mitigation. One of the items in the letter references the 1880 Agricultural census.
 - The responsibility of the HOA to maintain vegetative barriers should be written into the HOA bylaws.
 - Roads in development are not planned to be dedicated to Township.
 - The springhouse is really shoehorned between units. The plan should be adjusted to better incorporate it into the community. Members questioned whether there is a way to provide a connection to the historic resource it is associated with.
 - There is concern with regard to how the backs of the units along 322 will impact the neighboring historic resource. Ideas to address this include

adjustments to the architecture of the units and landscape screening between the units and 322.

- NVR will attend the February 2nd Planning Commission meeting, they are looking for formal support for conditional use. Will address comments from both Planning Commission and Historical Commission.
- HRIS will be required for the project.

Jim Croce Marker

- No response yet from the state, do not expect before end of February (at the earliest).
- Jim B. sent letter to homeowner of 11 Highspire letting him know about application. Homeowner is willing to meet with members of the Historical Commission but he is not partial to the idea of a marker, already has issues with trespassers.
- Jim B. will move forward with setting up a meeting.

DCCC – Marker for Dowingtown Industrial & Agricultural School

No response from Ruth Bennett regarding marker and commemoration. Jim B. will follow up again.

Leanne Smith (HR-89), 2022 Bondsville Road

Jim B. still unable to connect with her regarding Township Historic Preservation Award, will continue efforts. Jim B. would also like to feature the house in the Fall newsletter of the Chester County Historic Preservation Network as an example of a restoration done right.

Recorded Interviews of Long-time residents (update)

Arters interview rescheduled for January 12, Jim B. will be back up in case doors do not open.

Planning Commission Update

Nothing except Weaver Tract (covered above)

EB Township Update

Positions on Commission

- Sean Alvarez – will fill remainder of Dan Rhodes term (until 2021)
- Jim Buczala – reappointed to 4 year term (2022)
- Francis Taraschi – reappointed to 4 year term (2022)

New Business

- Locust Knoll – David Thal is on the property and starting to do some work. Sale of property is still pending.
- Spring Speaker Series – Jim B. asked Carol S. about Speaker series. Will follow up with her and get something into the MileMarker.
- Trego Barn – Jim B. spoke with Chris Yates, made him aware of piece of metal that is flapping. Chris Y. also said they are planning to move forward with renovations in the spring.

Action Steps:

Jim B. – Contact owner of 11 Highspire to set up site visit.

Jim B. – Continue efforts to connect with Ruth Bennett of DCCC.

Jim B. – Continue to try and connect with Leanne Smith regarding recognition of 2022 Bondville Rd. for Township Historic Preservation Award.

Jim B. – Spring Speaker Series info from Carol S. for MileMarker.

Sharon B. & Bob R. – Continue to research HR-55.

Carol S. and Allie P. – Continue interviews with longtime residents.

Sharon B. – continue to work on Archives