

## East Brandywine Historical Commission Meeting March 13, 2019

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

**Also Present:** Luke Reven

Meeting opened at 7:03 pm; Adjourned at 8:33 pm

**Minutes** of previous month's meeting

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

### **Croce Marker**

- Marker has been approved but not officially posted yet. State Senator Andy Dinniman posted on Facebook.
- Jim B., Mark M., and Francis T. met with the Crossans (owners of the property) on March 9th to discuss the Marker and its placement. They are not currently receptive to the idea of the Marker due to concerns about increased traffic to the property. The Historical Commission will work with the Crossans to try and address their concerns; they want the following considerations:
  - Would like to see "No Trespassing" or "Private Property" signs posted along with Marker.
  - Alternatively, "No entry without Permission".
- Also discussed with the Crossan's was the Historical Commission's support for repair of outhouse. Will require significant repair. Building is unique – oval in shape with 8 seats. Masonry construction.
- Jim B. will follow up with the Crossan's.
- Bob R. will follow up with Karen Galle (at PHMC) re: next steps.

### **Weaver Tract, 1234 Horseshoe Pike (HR-170)**

Historical Commission reviewed updated plans (provided to the Historical Commission on March 11<sup>th</sup>) and is generally pleased with changes made to the plan.

- Building 54 has been moved to open up space around springhouse.
- Spring house will be in a park-like setting, it is a destination.
- No change of grading within 50 feet of springhouse, except where the road will be.
- NVR is committed to a covenant on the spring house and surrounding landscape and will include a yearly inspection.
- NVR has committed to interpretive signage at spring house and in clubhouse.

### **Dowlin House, 205 Township Road (HR-45)**

John Rathfon, Metropolitan, Building Permit status

- John B. has been in communication with J. Rathfon – Metropolitan will not be acting on the building permit that they have. Current approval is just for the roof.
- Metropolitan has submitted a new plan which was rejected by the zoning officer. Number of issues that need to be addressed. Will likely be months before work will start.

- J. Rathfon promised there would be tarps on the building by the end of the week. John B. will stay on them to make sure this gets done.
- Historical Commission would like to maintain historical integrity of the resource. Makes sense for Metropolitan (or J. Rathfon) to come talk to commission now and not wait.
- John B. will contact J. Rathfon to convey the Historical Commission's concerns and propose that he attend a meeting.
- John B. will talk to zoning officer to see if there is anything that can be done re: demolition by neglect.

### **DCCC Marker for Downingtown Industrial & Agricultural School**

No update.

### **Leanne Smith, 2022 Bondsville Road (HR-89)**

Township Historic Preservation Award

No update

### **Recorded Interviews of Long-time Residents**

No update

### **Spring Speaking Series**

Ready for March event – Jim B. will be back-up if doors do not open on Sunday (3/17). John Miller is not charging the Township a Speaker's fee.

### **Planning Commission Update**

Planning Commission endorsed Bondsville Mill Garden Project for County grant application. Currently working on State grant now. Bondsville Mill Park Committee plans to plant 100 trees (50 each of Dogwoods and Redbuds) along the bank behind the Mill Buildings. Do not need an endorsement from the Historical Commission.

### **East Brandywine Township Update**

Luke R. reported that he attended the Landscapes3 presentation given by the Chester County Planning Commission. East Brandywine Township was called out as an example of Historic Preservation done right.

### **CCHPN Spring Workshop**

John B., Jim B. and Sharon B. will be attending on March 23

### **Action Steps:**

John B. – Follow up with NVR re: Weaver Farm plans.

John B. – Follow up with J. Rathfon re: tarps on roof of Dowlin House, convey Historical Commission's concerns and invite to a meeting.

John B. – Follow up with Zoning officer re: demo by neglect of Dowlin House.

Jim B. – Work with owner of 11 Highspire re: Croce marker and other signage and offer support for restoration of outhouse.

Jim B. – Continue to work with DCCC re: marker.

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

Bob R. – Contact Karen Galle re: next steps for Croce marker.

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