

East Brandywine Historical Commission Meeting  
April 13, 2022

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

**Also Present:** Luke Reven, Mario Spoto

Meeting opened at 7:06 pm; Adjourned at 8:18 pm

**Minutes of previous month's meetings**

The minutes for the March 2022 meeting were approved as amended.

**Hadfield Road Bridge (HR-328)**

- Sandy Martin will be attending the May Historic Commission meeting per Luke Reven.
- John B. had a conversation with Audrey Everett (Senior Transportation Specialist) at last Speaker Series event, she will be attending a meeting with Historical Commission soon.

**Locust Knoll Farm, 1000 Horseshoe Pike (HR-78)**

- Barn has been cleaned up, David Thal will now focus on the house.
- Divided lite sashes going in soon
- Mark will be providing drawings for the front porch and the enclosed structure on the house.

**Croce Marker Historical Marker**

Members discussed the feasibility of holding a dedication ceremony.

- Jim B. to talk Julia Pook about having something on the property.
- Mark M. will reach out to owner re: documenting the outhouse roof via drawings.
- Dedication ceremony possible date: 9/20 anniversary of death.
- Possibility of closing Highspire Rd. from Creek Rd. along property.
- Do we need to consider COVID protocols?
- Use Eventbrite; bus participants from Township Building to ceremony site
- Sharon B. to pull notes from previous planning and send to members.

**Dowlin House, 270 Arters Way (HR-45)**

John B. has driven by and not much has been done over the last month other than the gravel pile is gone.

**Speaker Series**

- April 24<sup>th</sup> – “Lenape Nation” – Barbara Blue Jay Michaelski

- March event – went well, but not a large crowd (approximately 30 people)  
Technical issues with recording, will be resolved for the April event.  
John B. not available, Jim B. will attend.
- 2 speakers lined up for Fall:
  - September 18 – Olivia Gruber Florek – Thomas Buchanan Reed
  - October 16 – David Walter – America’s Obscure Presidents: Van Buren to Buchanan.  
Van Buren’s summer estate was in Caln Township (Craft House Restaurant)
  - Third idea is Old Caln Meetinghouse – Old Caln Historical Society.

### **Oral History Project/Community Outreach Sub-committee**

- Kathy Irons was interviewed on 3/19 – grew up in house that used to be located at corner of Hopewell and 322 (below Burns Beverage).
- There are a couple more trying to schedule.

#### Outreach sub-committee

- Looking at moving forward with Historical Marker sign program for township (similar to Caln).
  - Sharon B. to get some pricing from local sign maker.
  - Sign design should be standardized – simple shape and basic information (name and circa date). Mark M. suggested black with gold lettering.
  - Should develop a form to fill out for purchase
  - Sharon B. will head up this effort.

### **Planning Commission**

- Weaver Farm – Brandywine Walk – Ryan Homes (Maple View) coming before Planning Commission in May, basically same as preliminary plan as far as layout and historical provisions.
- Mendenhall property (HR-99) sold at auction – will be developed. Hammel Trust had planned to subdivide the property but dropped the effort, as it was complicated by its being located in three townships (East Brandywine, West Brandywine, and Caln). The owner was informed of the historic resource on the EB Township portion of the property during the Plan review process. There is wetlands on the property, including the access point to it through Caln Township. Concern about the historic resource was communicated to Jim B. from Jeff Deacon (Coatesville Historical Society), John Ross (Coatesville Historical Commission), and Bonnie Radford (Wallace Township Historical Commission); the local historic preservation community is aware of the issue. The resource has significant history. Based on observation of the property during the sale process by Francis T., the structure is in really bad shape – roof gone, floors throughout rotted.
- Plank/McCausland – will be back in May with preliminary plan. Easement for Reeceville Rd. extension.

### **EB Township Updates**

No updates

## **Action Steps:**

John B. – Call Sandy Martin and ask for updated plans re: Hadfield Rd. Bridge.

Jim B. – Talk to Julia Pook re: holding Croce Marker dedication ceremony on property.

Mark M. – Talk to owner of 11 Highspire Rd. re: documenting roof of outhouse.

Sharon B. – Send members notes from last planned Croce Marker dedication ceremony.

Sharon B. – Contact sign maker to get prices for historic resource signs.

Jim B. – Explore flexibility of density restrictions.

Jim B. – Photos to line drawings (post as coloring pages).

Sharon B. – Contact local schools and colleges re: student to do some research for HC.

Jim B., Francis T, Mark M. – Work with owner of 11 Highspire Rd regarding restoration of the outhouse.

Sharon B. – continue to work on Archives

TBD – work on updating HR Survey