

East Brandywine Historical Commission Meeting  
May11, 2022

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

**Also Present:** Luke Reven, Mario Spoto, Sandy Martin, Audrey Corrado, Greg Wagman

Meeting opened at 7:07 pm; Adjourned at 8:28 pm

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

- Sandy Martin (McCormick Taylor) and Audrey Corrado (Baker Engineering) attended the meeting to discuss the bridge project. Both attended the Historical Commission's October 2015 meeting, where commitments were made regarding the bridge design and its aesthetics..
- Hadfield Rd. Bridge is a historic resource in the township (County Bridge #244).
- Design of replacement bridge will look similar to the current structure, and is context sensitive: Open structure mounted rail will be used in lieu of solid concrete parapets. Guiderail that will be painted brown; Real stone facing (3-4" thick) on on exposed surfaces; Reuse existing cap stones, or replicate if they are damaged; Existing date plaque will be relocated and reset; Steel superstructure with faux vertical ribs. What was presented is consistent with what was agreed to at the Historical Commission's October 2015 meeting.
- Roadway is currently 16 feet wide, bridge will be 24' in width, 150 to 200 feet to taper back into existing roadway (which was previously widened to 18').
- Design will not have any weight limits.
- Will the contractor have the ability to change anything in the plan as presented to the Historical Commission tonight, specifically materials? S. Martin replied "No".
- S. Martin thanked the Historical Commission for our involvement and stated the process resulted in a nicer looking bridge than would have occurred without our input.
- The Historical Commission is in support of the design as presented. John B will send a letter indicating our agreement with plan to County to move forward.

**Minutes of previous month's meetings**

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

**170 Crawford Road Subdivision Plan**

- An HRIS was submitted with application and was reviewed by HC members.
- G. Wagman presented his subdivision plan.
- Historical Commission members agreed there is sufficient buffering included in the 4/12/2022 plan to mitigate any potential adverse effect of the new construction.
- The Township Roadmaster suggested installing a Guardrail between the stone barn ruins and springhouse of the subject lot and the road. Historical Commission members feel that a guardrail would significantly detract from HR-37.
- Barn is only 3 feet off road.

- Township has requested right of way but Township is not currently planning any improvements.

Motion: A motion was made by John B. and seconded by Jim B. that it is the position of the Historic Commission that the 4/12/22 plan for landscape buffering sufficiently mitigates the adverse impact of the subdivision. It is also the position of the Historical Commission that the installation of a guardrail would adversely affect the historical view and should not be installed. The motion was passed unanimously.

- John B will write a letter to the Zoning Officer regarding this issue.

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

No updates

### **Croce Marker Historical Marker**

- A dedication ceremony is budgeted for this year and the Historical Commission decided that it should be held to formally recognize the Marker's installation. Members discussed possible dates for the ceremony: 9/10 or 10/2
- It was noted that a lot of the ground work had previously been done for this event, including setting up the Eventbrite site, preliminary discussions with the bus company for transport, and outreach for possible speakers and musical involvement.
- Carol – lead on bus?
- Bob R. will contact Julia Pook and speakers to check date.
- Will need to make arrangements for Porta-Potty.
- Jim B. will contact Julia Pook re: dates and using her property.
- Will need a canopy, chairs, table, podium, and sound system.
- Use Eventbrite to issue tickets to bus participants from Township Building to ceremony site.

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

John B. has driven by and nothing has changed since last month.

### **Speaker Series**

- April 24<sup>th</sup> – “Lenape Nation” – Event not recorded, speaker refused to sign form.
- May 15<sup>th</sup> – “Hinsonville Heros” – Black civil war soldiers
- Fall Events
  - 9/18 - Olivia Gruber Florek - Thomas Buchanan Reed
  - 10/16 - David Walter - America's obscure Presidents: Van Buren to Buchanan. Van Buren summer estate in Caln Township
  - Still working on third

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

- Harvest Festival – Would like to get a better spot
- Jim B. will talk to organizer

- Jim B. will turn some photos into line art to create coloring pages.
- Flyer advertising Fall Speaker Series.
- Sharon B. still researching Historical Markers. Cost from Tam Art was \$425, included installation. Members felt this was too high.

### **Planning Commission**

- Weaver Farm – Brandywine Walk – coming before Planning Commission in July, basically same as preliminary plan as far as layout and historical provisions.

### **EB Township Updates**

- Beginning of July – new comprehensive plan draft will be sent out for public comment.
  - Items for Historical Commission include updating the historic resources atlas and continuing educational mission.
- Currently there are 4 applications for land development: 170 Crawford R. (discussed tonight), Brandywine Walk, McCausland/Plank, and Osborn Rd. Also an amended plan for Mapleview.

### **Action Steps:**

John B. – Send confirmation letter to county re: Hadfield Rd. Bridge

John B. – Contact Zoning officer re: HRIS not needed for 170 Crawford Rd. and confirming landscape buffering planned will mitigate adverse effects.

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

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

Sharon B. – Contact sign makers to get prices for historic resource marker 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.

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

Sharon B. – continue to work on Archives

TBD – work on updating HR Survey