



West Vincent Township Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes for May 10, 2023 (revised)

Commission members in attendance: Bob Wise, Chair, Kate Farnham, Vice Chair, Peter Benton, Karl Brachwitz, Thomaseth Dulchinos, Secretary (by phone)

Township Supervisors in attendance: Sara Shick

Call to Order: Meeting called to order 7:01 pm

Approval of March 8, 2023 minutes (No April Meeting): Motion of Approval put forth by Peter Benton, Kate Farnham seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

**Applications:**

1. 1245 Schoolhouse Lane, Lipton Property (first application review): Architect John Kohlhas presented plan that involves changes to the house and demolition of certain outbuildings (chicken house, wagon house addition, block section once attached to now-demolished barn). Mr. Benton and Mr. Wise had previously visited the property with the owners. Mr. Benton noted the ZHB had approved a variance on 5/8/23 (he attended the meeting). Motion was made by Mr. Brachwitz to approve plan including changes as presented to house and demolition of all three buildings. Mr. Benton seconds. Motion unanimously approved.
2. 2200 Flowing Springs Road, Todd & Todd, LLC (final application review): Revised architectural plan for addition and existing building was presented by project architect. Mr. Benton made the motion to approve the revised plan as presented. Mr. Brachwitz seconds. Motion unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

1. Opalanie Park: Peter Benton discussed having 10 exhibits, 4 at a minimum. Mr. Benton, with assistance from Cindy Clark, submitted final sign copy to Christina Casey. Sara Shick will check on status.
2. Threatened Properties Update: Mr. Benton reported that barn at 2030 Flowing Springs Road continues to deteriorate; no action taken by HC, however Mr. Wise will follow up with Tracey Franey to see if email was or can be sent to property owner.
3. Township Barn: Ms. Shick reported that nothing is happening at the present, options are being explored however and she will share them once in hand.
4. SR 1030 Birchrun Road Bridge: Mr. Wise reviewed 5/9/23 memo with Mr. Granger; Mr. Wise will follow up to see when HC letter will be revised and submitted to PennDOT.
5. Birchrunville Café: Mr. Wise reviewed 5/9/23 memo from Mr. Granger; Mr. Brachwitz noted that the process failed. Mr. Wise is to contact Bernie Couris about the application and then draft a memo to John Granger about this issue.

6. Township Newsletter: Cindy Clark drafting an article on barns; Mr. Wise will send photos of barns used in earlier presentation. Mr. Benton also submitting article and Ms. Clark is writing an additional article on Peter Martin.

**New Business:**

1. Proposed Ordinance Change: Mr. Wise discussed the change and the 5/9/23 memo from J Granger. The proposed change basically says property owners can ignore advice from HC regarding treatment of historic properties when seeking advice. HC members concerned and wanted to know why this is necessary and asked what the issue is. Ms. Shick responded that Mr. Granger said people complained prompting him to submit the proposed language. She also said that the HC should submit its own language to address the issue. The HC noted that the discussion should be tabled until further information is obtained. Mr. Wise to contact Bernie Couris.

**Reports:**

1. Assignments as Committee Liaisons TD – BoS; KF – PC; RW – OSC: No Reports
2. HRC Report: Cindy Clark discussed the Township Open House on October 21 with representation from the HC. Isabelle Travaylini visited the Vincent Baptist Cemetery in May. She thanked James Wenger, Mark Dewyouns, and David and Margie Klucznik for looking after grave stones. She noted that the cemetery is a most important resource.

**Business from Floor:**

1. Chester County Historic Preservation Network June Dinner: members invited to attend; Ms. Shick attending.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to end meeting made by Mr. Brachwitz, Kate Farnham seconds. Meeting ends at 9:07 pm

Respectfully submitted by Robert Wise, July 11, 2023

