



WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

July 13, 2022
7:00 PM

Attendance: Bob Wise, Chair; Kate Farnham, Vice-Chair; Karl Brachwitz; Dana Alan, Township Supervisor; Bernie Couris, Township Supervisor; Sara Shick, Township Supervisor. Absent: Peter Benton, Thomaseth Dulchinos.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Wise called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the April 12, 2022 meeting of the Historical Commission prepared by Ms. Farnham were distributed. **MOTION** by Mr. Brachwitz for approval of the minutes; second by Ms. Farnham. *Motion carries unanimously.*

3. APPLICATIONS:

There were no applications this month.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

Township Barn:

The BOS recently held a workshop to discuss preliminary plans for the township complex and proposed new public safety facility. During the course of the workshop, discussion arose about demolishing the existing stone barn rather than the previous idea of retaining it and reinforcing its interior structure to house public works equipment/vehicles. Although there is no application to demolish the barn, the Commission informally discussed the options and issues involved, including whether it could be reused as the public safety facility. Audience members, including members of the Historic Resources Committee (Cindy Clark, Isabelle Travaglini, Yvonne Brownlee) and the Supervisors participated in the discussion. Since there is no application on file, Mr. Brachwitz felt a formal recommendation or motion from the Commission is inappropriate from a process standpoint. However, since public comment is open and the design is progressing, Ms. Farnham suggested memorializing the main points of the discussion in a brief informal memo to the BOS as a record of tonight's conversation. Mr. Wise will draft the memo.

Opalanie Park:

Barb Quinter of the Historic Resources Committee prepared a report on Native American history in the Township as the basis for some of the interpretive signage to be installed. The Commission needs to review this report prior to our next meeting. Ms. Alan stated that new signs for the park entrance would be installed soon.

1925 French Creek Rd.:

This residential property was purchased by the Township as parkland and the dwelling is to be demolished. The Township did not pursue an RFP to relocate it. The dwelling was a cattle shed enclosed for residential use in the 1960s and has little historical value.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

Bennett Farm Development:

Residents Stefanie Lindquist and Rick Merrick were present and had questions about the historic nature of this farm, which is proposed for redevelopment. No applications have been made to the Commission. Ms. Clark pointed out that the two



farmsteads on the property are both Class 2A resources. The residents and Commission briefly discussed the process and applicability of the Township historic preservation ordinance and historic resource studies.

6. PROJECTS:

No updates.

7. REPORTS:

There are no updates from the BOS or Planning Commission liaisons. Isabelle Travaglini of the Historic Resources Committee would like the Township to consider creating a veterans' memorial. The West Vincent Township Community Day on 5/14/2022 was successful and the Township did a great job.

8. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

There was no business from the floor.

9. ADJOURN:

Business having been completed, **MOTION** for adjournment was made by Ms. Farnham; second by Mr. Wise. *Motion carries unanimously.* Meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Farnham, Vice-Chair

