

West Vincent Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes- March 12, 2018

Attending: Don Cook; Tommi Dulchinos; Jane Helm; Vic Laubach; Suzanne Roth; Ken Witek.

Absent: Pieter Ouwerkerk.

Also attending: Erica Batdorf; Bernie Couris; Jim Helm; Sara Shick.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 P.M.

The minutes of the February 7, 2018 were approved.

1st: Jane Helm; 2nd: Ken Witek Passed

Correspondence

The Historic Resources Committee (HRC) submitted the Draft Minutes of their February 26, 2018 and a "Concerns List" regarding 'at risk' historical properties within the township. The concerns list will be given to the Zoning Officer.

Natural Lands (NL) has submitted a letter asking for an extension on the application for a demolition permit for the Ralston Barn. It is unclear what is being requested.

MOTION: The EAC will not vote until April on the Ralston barn demolition permit awaiting clarification from NL for extension until May.

1st: Jane Helm; 2nd: Tommi Dulchinos Passed

Sara Shick said the HRC is asking for quotes for stabilization and restoration of the Ralston barn. Jane Helm will take a picture of the barn in situ to show the entire farm-scape that would be lost with the demolition of the barn.

Subdivision/Land Development/Historic Building

The McGeary lot line change was reviewed and accepted.

Old Business

Heritage Trees continues as a project. This will be our presentation at Community Day, June 9. Sample signs will be shown and explanations given to residents. Vic will ask Bartlett Trees for seedlings to give away. Jane will present this project to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on Monday night, March 19.

We will continue to present EAC updates to the BOS meeting once a month.

New Business

The EAC will request that the BOS form a new historic entity to oversee the historic resources in WVT. Jane and Vic have written an explanation for the BOS of why the time has come to remove the HRC from the EAC. Simply put, we are not attending to the Environmental part of our mission because the Historic part has demanded our time and energy. We would suggest “the new committee be made up of members who have the following qualifications: Historical Architecture, Structural Engineer, Historian, Housing Construction, Legal expertise and general knowledge of the area.”

MOTION: The EAC respectfully requests that the Township Manger and the BOS look into creating an historic “entity” (TBD) to remove responsibility of the HRC from the EAC.

1st: Jane Helm; 2nd: Suzanne Roth

Passed

We have good resources at the county and state level for historic advice. Erica stated that long-range changes are in the works. For the moment, the HRC could have a sub-committee with one member acting as chair and overseeing this sub-committee. Vic will distribute this information at the BOS meeting on Monday, March 19.

Reports

- Planning Commission’s April meeting will discuss the future agenda of the Ludwig’s Corner concept plan (Weatherstone) landscape; macadam trail, position of trees and horticulture.
- Ad hoc committee did meet with Rick Trailles.

Other Business

The EAC network conference will be on April 14th at the Desmond. Sign up by tonight. Tomorrow at 7 P.M. Welkinweir will present a program on the Spotted Lantern Fly.

Action Items

Tommi will investigate the rules & regulations under Act 319 for the Ralston barn.
Jane will take pictures of the Ralston barn to be placed with other information.
Jane will clarify with Tracy the 60 days + on hot button issues.
Jane will present the Heritage Tree concept t the BOS.
Vic will get free trees from Bartlett.
Vic will present EAC/HRC change to BOS.

Adjourned at 7:07 P.M.