

West Brandywine Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes March 3, 2003

Welcome to new members

- Howard Lambert
Thorndale, PA 19372
- Harold Baker

West Brandywine Historical Commission Members (attendees in bold)

Susan Bowar, Joanne Conti, Judy Domanico, Amy Mills, **John Vilcheck, Jr. ,Jerry Wilmnzig, Andy Woods, Gail Woods**

Catania Property

Developer donating 10.8 acres to township includes house ruins, springhouse and barn ruins. West Brandywine Historical Commission (WBHC) is asking developer to move the line so all ruins are included in the donation. Some group discussion about any possible liability issues with the ruins. Township will be responsible for restoring the ruins. John Vilcheck is investigating the possibility of using vo-tech students to help with the restoration. All that is left of the barn is the outline and a small section of the bank portion. *Inquiry into getting grants in combination or individually from parks and recreation and historic commission*

WBHC agreed to make a statement to supervisors to move the property line as defined in planning commission meeting, which would then include springhouse in property.

Irish Oaks

Historic barn on this property continues to deteriorate. New owner wants to tear down the old barn and rebuild barn. WBHC recommending old materials be sold for reuse. New barn will have same dimensions as the existing barn. Stone for the bank barn should be preserved.

NOTE: Old property across the street on the corner of Icedale road is believed to have been Mermaid Tavern.

Interior 2nd floor of the barn has unique structure. WBHC would prefer new construction use the same framing. In addition plans must specify that barn will not be demolished at some point in the future. WBHC agrees that the barn can be torn down, and a duplicate built using same design. WBHC members noted water damage from leaking roof is causing house to deteriorate, this should be fixed to preserve the structural integrity of the building.

Bentley

Bentley Property 1 – next to Watters trucking

Bentley is proposing 10 3-story apartments buildings on this property. 284 units

Bentley Property – John Sheldon and Gordon Property -- includes Cedar Post Farm.

Proposal includes the use of both commercial and residential space on this site. Bentley has expressed to West Brandywine Planning Commission that there does not appear to be a need for the commercial space in this area. The house on this property is designated for commercial use. Bentley must complete the PHMC historic form and file it in Harrisburg. All the stone from the barn needs to be transported to the Eck Property on Germany Hollow Road. (Meeting of Nov 4, 2002). WBHC cannot approve proposal until all steps are complete.

Balderston Property on Culbertson Run Road – Proposing 115 units on this property with regional sewer.

Howe Turkey Farm

Howe is requesting permission to demolish the barn. Owner of record not clearly stated, only a few poor quality photos were submitted, there is no proposed method for demolition included in the material. Building suffers from neglect, WBHC would like to inspect building, and record what remains. *Demolition permit will be returned with a notation of the above to the applicant.*

WBHC Business

- John Vilcheck will talk with Jane Davidson and see if she can provide a refresher course for the group.

Mission of the group:

- Record historic sites in township
- Make recommendations when changes are proposed by developers or current property owners

Agenda items

- WBHC's agenda will include for discussion items submitted up to the date of the current month meeting, but action items will not be addressed until the following month. Items received after the date of the current month's meeting will be placed on the agenda for the following month.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM