

West Brandywine Township
Open Space Review Board
Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2009

6:45 pm John Cassels called the meeting to order.

In Attendance:

John Cassels	Jeff Chalfant	Kim Hoopes
Steve Jakatt	Bob Schini	
Chuck Dobson arrived at 6:48 pm		

Absent:

John Conti	Anita Ferenz	Joseph Arvay
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Public Present:

Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):

June 25, 2009 – John Cassels noted that there were a couple typographical errors. He will send corrections. Steve Jakatt motioned to accept the minutes of June 25, 2009 with any corrections. Kim Hoopes seconded the motion. All members in attendance at the June meeting voted in favor of the motion to accept the minutes.

Old Business:

- 1) Icedale Meadows: Will contact Boy Scouts. Have not heard anything if stone is available for use for the driveway. There is no movement on this issue.
- 2) Baldwin: The Baldwins did contact Ron Rambo and have reviewed everything and will be in to discuss within a month.
- 3) Lindborg: The appraiser has been notified to look at the property and is in the process of doing the appraisal. The OSRB discussed whether or not the appraiser should be the same person who normally does the appraisals because it is the Lindborg property. Chuck Dobson noted that appraisers are licensed individuals who have to maintain ethics. The same process/procedures used to evaluate other properties would be followed in this situation.
- 4) Eck Property: There has been no response from Dr. Eck. The development plan is progressing.

New Business

General Discussion by OSRB (as needed):

Joe Obernier forwarded a link to review the draft update of the Landscapes2 – John Cassels did have an opportunity to review and stated that everything in the plan is in line with what the OSRB has written into the objectives of the Open Space Plan. It seems like as far as open space and greenways, we are doing exactly what they are suggesting.

John Cassels noted that at the last meeting Ed Barr mentioned he was on the task force (Hibernia Trail Task Force). We have a copy of the document (report) that Ed Barr mentioned. This was a 2-year study that researched the ownership of property. The trail is a much bigger trail than we discussed. It goes from Coatesville up to Elverson with east – west links through Elverson going down through St. Peters and down through French Creek State Park, etc. The report shows the

overall county network. It is a well-organized opposition. There are several letters from various landowners marking the locations where the landowners are and what their concerns are. It is assumed that the whole initiative was dropped because of the opposition in 1991.

John Cassels spoke with Grant DeCosta of the Chester County Planning Commission who is the in the field for all Chester County's Open Space projects - I described the trail out of Hibernia to the Cedar Knoll and he actually went out a couple days later, walked it, went back and checked his records and he did a lot of research. He came back with 3 alternatives for us to consider. 1. As the County Parks and Rec said we will need to have the BoS on board and they will need to request that the County Commissioners grant access and public use of the county owned lands. 2. Go to the Superintendent of Hibernia Park to see if he would be willing to take on the project on his own. All the trails in Hibernia Park he took on as his own initiative. 3. Pam Brown's name was mentioned that in her experience she was successful in offering language to the East Vincent BoS and they went to the County Commissioners and received a Quit Claim Deed for County owned pieces of rail that they did convert into open space and transferred ownership to the Township. I have contacted Pam Brown for the information. The Supervisors would need to accept the offer for the Quit Claim or to ask for a designated use or an agreement of understanding from the County in order to push forward. Landscapes talks about trying to link protected open space; so Icedale to Hibernia would be a nice little route. One of the concerns mentioned in the report notes is that people would park on all the little side streets. They would not take advantage of the parking that would be at Icedale. There would have to be designated trail heads, pull offs, etc.

Next meeting – Thursday, August 27, 2009 @ 6:45 pm.

Steve Jakatt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kim Hoopes seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.