

# Richland Township Preservation Board Meeting Minutes

## March 9, 2022

Submitted by Kathy Fedorocsko

### Members Present:

In attendance were Kathy Fedorocsko and Dale Henninger. Staff member present was Rich Brittingham.

- A. **Minutes:** January's minutes were approved as reported. Kathy motioned, Dale seconded, unanimous approval.
- B. **Financial Report:** As of March 9, 2022, our fund balance stands at \$918,578.81. Assuming the income from the tax & non-easement expenses remain the same thru June 2023, we will have approximately \$1,500,000 to spend on preservation thru June 2023. We received Stoneback's rental fees for farming preserved land in December, \$1650. The portion of the Boucher & James overcharge settlement will probably never be seen as the amount spent on preservation was not reported.

### C. Property Reports, Active:

1. **Maderson (36-045-011) 23.75 acres, 210 Axe Handle Rd:** The property was appraised at \$8000/acre. With the help of Heritage, we applied for DCNR funding in April and on December 30, 2021, we received word that we would receive the funding, which would pay for 50% of the cost. We project settlement in Spring 2022. Kris Kern will give us the date.
2. **Corn (36-39-79) 55.6 acres on 150 Hickory Lane:** The property was appraised at \$7500/acre. With the help of Heritage, we applied for DCNR funding in April and on December 30, 2021, we received word that we would receive the funding, which would pay for 50% of the cost. We project settlement in Spring 2022. Kris Kern will give us the date.

For both Maderson and Corn, we are waiting on the grant agreement and agreement of sale. A "review appraisal" and survey need to be done, then closing occurs. Heritage Conservancy will pay half of these "soft costs", NTE \$17,000. The DCNR is the 3<sup>rd</sup> party on the easement.

3. **Sames (36-29-32,88,94) 61 acres on Church Rd:** The County Farmland application was submitted by Laura Bower in December and the supervisors admitted the property to Richland's ASA at the Feb 14, 2022 supervisor's meeting. The County recorded the document on February 23, 2022.

### D. Property Reports: Pending Contact / Action:

1. **New properties:** Kathy will reach out to these property owners and revisit some of the larger properties we have contacted.

### E. Old Business

1. **Property Monitoring by Heritage:** All properties have been walked for 2021 and we have addressed our concerns, where applicable, by letter. John Keller requested to have signs from the township installed by the road crew, that say "no motorized vehicles". The signs have been ordered and will be installed by the road crew as soon as practical.

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2. **Historic Taylor Home (36-05-54):** Richland now has a lease with LVHN for \$1/year and is now responsible for the building. The Preservation Board will begin to look into what we can do to clean up the property and maybe get a historic sign placed on the property for starters. Rich will see if we can get the road crew to deliver a dumpster for us to put what we clean up into and ask Chief Ficco to add a stop at the home for security purposes.
3. **Lisbon tract Educational Center proposal by Heritage Conservancy:** Rich S. and Kathy walked the part of the tract near the two schools with Shannon in February. Shannon is putting together her concept as to how the tract can be used for an Educational Center by the schools nearby.
4. **Central School – one-room schoolhouse 402 Station Road:** Kathy will do a PowerPoint at the March Supervisor’s meeting concerning repair and upkeep on the township-owned historic schoolhouse. The Preservation Board would like to assess what needs to be done to improve the building’s look and resolve any further damage. We would like to put a historic sign with a brief history of the school in the front. We will look into grants from Heritage and Neusch to help start some project and see if there is any other funding available for repairs and maintenance. Mike Schwartz from Gilmore and Associates may be able to help with finding grants.
5. **Open Space Map:** Rich B will talk with Mike Schwartz about darkening the parcel lines and making the font smaller for the development names. He will also ask about removing the double legend entries.
6. **Open Space from Reserve at Woodside Creek – 100 acres off of Richlandtown Pike and California Road.** Kathy was wondering if the Preservation Board could do some baseline evaluations and see just what is there at this time. Rich B said Linc and Tim were ok with them doing such.
7. **Open Space from Reserve at Woodside Creek – 42 acres adjacent to the development.** Heritage Conservancy request to have this donated to them so that they could manage the sensitive habit found there. It is being discussed by Staff.

#### **F. New business**

1. **ASA map:** Dale found an error on the map for his own property and asked to have it corrected. Rich B will have Mike Schwartz correct it.
2. **Village Signs:** The Preservation Board had wanted to place historic signs in four of the Township’s historic villages. With the advent of Covid, we did not pursue this beyond writing up the histories. Now that we have gotten a quote for a sign for the Central School, Kathy had the previous quote for a double-sided sign updated and will present the concept to the Supervisors soon.

**Motion to Adjourn: Kathy motioned, Dale seconded, unanimous approval.**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM**

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