

**Richland Township Preservation Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2025**

**Members Present:**

In attendance were Rick Taylor and Rich Sadler. Staff member present Rich Brittingham

Absent Dale Henninger

**Reorganization**

Rick Taylor – Chairperson

Rich Sadler – Vice Chairperson

- A. **Minutes** – Motion by Rick Taylor to approve the September 11, 2024 minutes. Rich Sadler seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- B. **Financial Report** – As of January 8, 2025, our fund balance stands at \$2,197,814.86. The amount to date for the EIT earned available for potential use of historic preservation and maintenance of open space is \$189,355.36.
- C. **Determine Meeting Frequency Dates for 2025** – It was agreed to meet every two months for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year. Meeting Dates will be on the following Wednesday's:

March 12, 2025

May 14, 2025

July 9, 2025

September 10, 2025

November 12, 2025

D. **Property Reports**

1. **Ronald & Margaret Sames (TMP Nos. 36-029-032, 088 and 094) – 61 Acres on Church Road**  
Rich Brittingham reached out to John Ives with the County on the status of the Sames interest to have their properties preserved through the County Ag Open Space Program. John Ives said that he is working on the rankings of the list of properties. He had indicated that the Sames properties may be ranked high. John asked if someone from the Preservation Board can reach out to Mr. & Mrs. Sames to see if he has any interest in pursuing to preserve their properties through the County Ag Open Space Program if they have a high ranking. If so, the County will proceed with obtaining an appraisal. Rich Brittingham explained that the County has a cap of \$12,000.00 per acre and that John had asked if the appraisal exceeds the \$12,000.00 amount would the Township agree to contribute any monies above the \$12,000.00 figure to preserve the property. Rich Sadler said that he will call Mr. & Mrs. Sames to ask if they still have interest in preserving their properties through the County Ag Program.

2. Review list of property owners to reach out to in 2025

Rick Taylor said he will contact Kathy Fedorocsko to see if he can get Kathy's preservation files and ask Kathy if letters were sent to the property owners that the Board of Supervisors approved to notify by letter a few months ago. There was a question about the form letter that Leslie Huhn and Linc Treadwell were working on notifying property owners of their interest in preserving their land and has it been completed. Rich Brittingham said he will follow up with staff to verify if the letter was finalized.

**E. Old Business**

1. Central School – Station Road

Rick Taylor said that he had a discussion with the Steely's who live across the street from the one room schoolhouse on Station Road to see if they had interest in the building being relocated onto their property. Rick said that they did not object, but they had questions if zoning would allow it. Rich Brittingham said that there would be zoning and land use issues that would need to be obtained from the Zoning Hearing Board to have two principal uses on one parcel. The Board of Supervisors will also have input on this matter as well. Rich Sadler asked if funds could be used to fix the building at its current location or will it be demolished if it does not get fixed. Rich Brittingham suggested that Rick Taylor contact Leslie to discuss this and that a formal discussion take place with the Board of Supervisors.

**F. New Business**

1. Discuss recruitment of new members

Rick Taylor presented some ideas of having something in the upcoming Township newsletter and on the Township website informing residents that may have interest in serving on the Preservation Board. It was also suggested to place some signage along Township owned trails. Rich Brittingham said he will follow up with Leslie on the signage request.

2. Discuss conducting educational program for residents by Heritage Conservancy

This was tabled

3. Review Draft Procedures/Mission Statement/Goals

The documents were reviewed with no recommended changes

**G. Adjournment**

Rich Sadler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rick Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

**Next Meeting Wednesday, March 10, 2025**