

Williams Township Land Preservation Board Minutes, January 26, 2021 Virtual Meeting

Present: Jim Williams, Bob Schmidt, Ron Hinline, Ron Reichard, Linda Heindel
Supervisors: Ray Abert, Mark Ernst
Township Managers: Mikal Sabatine, Melody Ernst
Heritage Conservancy consultant Laura Baird

Outgoing Chairman Schmidt opened the meeting at 7:01 pm. He called for a review of the December 22, 2020 minutes. Motion (moved Hinline, 2nd Williams) to approve the minutes passed 5-0.

Reorganization meeting: Chairman Jim Williams
Vice Chairman Bob Schmidt
Secretary Linda Heindel

Williams assumed the chairmanship and conducted the meeting.

Updates–

Russell – The AOS and easement have been finalized and mailed to the Russells. Walt Russell asked that the lines between the various preservation areas be identified on a map and shown to him on the ground. Baird will go to the property on Jan 27, 11 am, to show them the lines.

The AOS to go to the BOS for signing. Then the baseline proposal (with its cost of \$2000 as noted in the AOS) should be presented to the BOS with request for funding. Schmidt asked Baird to check to see if funding for the baseline may be covered by the County, as it would have been for the Wharen project.

Boss – Baird reported that the Boss AOS has been written, and Boss is reviewing it. She asked if LPB wants her to speak with the County about appropriateness of a County application. She reported that Acevedo approved the waiver of public access. Baird noted that Heritage takes full responsibility if the Twp. hires her to write the application (BE the applicant), especially because it will be the holder of the easement. LPB should make a recommendation to this effect to BOS. Cost for Baird to complete the application is \$1500.

Motion (moved Schmidt, 2nd Hinline) that Heritage Conservancy be appointed applicant. Motion passed 5-0.
Next step is to ask BOS to allow Baird to do it and to report the cost.

O'Brien-Smith – Baird reported that Acevedo thinks the project looks attractive. Baird plans a site walk of Boss and O'Brien-Smith properties Feb. 16 or 17, afternoon. She will coordinate with interested LPB members as well. O'Brien and Smith asked whether a secondary residential structure would be allowed; Baird explained to them that under the Northampton County PALTA easement there may be only one residential structure. Supervisor Ernst recommended that O'Brien-Smith should consult the Zoning Officer about that question before preservation. Baird suggested that LPB members discuss the topic with O'Brien-Smith on day of site walk. Cost for this County application is \$1500.

Old Business – none

New Business

Treasurer's Report – Hinline circulated the December report. Total \$2,014,791.50. CD's to mature in March

Announcements – None

Audience comments – None

The meeting was adjourned on motion (moved Hinline, 2nd Schmidt) at 7:40 pm.

Submitted,
Linda Heindel, Secretary

Next Meeting (virtual): February 23, 2021, 7 pm