



Warrington Township

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2011

WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON FUTURE OF FOLLY ROAD SCHOOLHOUSE

WARRINGTON – The Warrington Township Board of Supervisors has scheduled a special public hearing for Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Warrington Township Building (852 Easton Road) to receive comments from Warrington residents on a proposed rehabilitation of the old schoolhouse located at 10 Folly Road in Warrington Township. The Supervisors received an intriguing proposal to deed back to the original family the current building, which has been in a state of tremendous disrepair for over 10 years. In exchange for this transfer of property, the family has agreed to devote the necessary resources to perform a historic restoration of the building to a 19th century school house. The house would be actively managed by the Warrington Historical Society and would serve as a living museum for class field trips and independent tours. The building would also serve as the primary meeting place for Historical Society meetings.

There is just one problem, however. The building was deeded to Warrington Township as part of a prior open space acquisition. Transferring open space property to an independent, non-governmental entity is unprecedented in Warrington both from a legal and public policy perspective. Despite the noble gesture, the Supervisors are genuinely concerned over any type of sale or transfer of open space. While the Township Solicitor, William H.R. Casey, has opined that transferring open space to a viable non-profit entity for purposes of historic preservation is permitted, the Board would like to hear comments from interested Warrington residents on this proposed transaction before it takes any further action. If residents are unable to attend the June 14, 2011 hearing, the Board would certainly welcome any letters of interest or emails which will be shared at this meeting. Please address to the attention of Township Manager Timothy J. Tieperman; 852 Easton Road, Warrington, PA 18976 or email mail@warringtontownship.org.

Attached are some current photographs of the existing house.

For more information, please visit www.warringtontownship.org.

Media contact: Timothy J. Tieperman, Township Manager (215-343-9350)

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