

**MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES—October 26, 2004**

Donna Schatz stated that she lives across the street from where they want to put the house. What is the historic value of this house? Who is going to maintain it? What is it going to be used for?

Rosellini stated that the HPRC approached them to see if it could be saved.

Fisher stated that the house is a Zabrisky house from the early 1800's.

Schatz stated that this is a poor location to put the house. There is limited site distance.

Ralph Silvestri, 7 Cedar Road, Montville, stated that the letter said there are several options. I thought that meant options of other locations. I heard it was going to be used as a museum – it is a residential neighborhood.

Rosellini stated that it will not be used as a museum.

Silvestri stated that if it is vacant there is the possibility of vandalism. Also, the property value could go down. Who is going to maintain it? I don't want to see it deteriorate.

Fisher described the Historical Society and the HPRC. The house was listed on the local register in 1987. We feel it is significant enough to save.

Rosellini stated from what he is hearing from the Township Committee, the house will not be moved to Cedar Road/Changebridge Road. What would be the cost to restore it?

Fisher stated that they would need an architect. Barile stated that it would be at least \$100,000. There is a core house inside of the additions.

Committeewoman Cetrulo asked what the HPRC plans to do with the house.

Fisher stated that possibly it could be a cultural arts meeting room or a place for local groups to meet – an arts & cultural center.

Rosellini asked what we are getting from the developer. Barile stated demolition costs less site restoration – total \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Committeeman Moscone asked it could be put as open space.

Martin Murphy, Township Attorney, replied that he could not answer quickly – if used for active and passive recreation.

Michael O'Brien, HPRC, stated that this house has been around for 200 years. The most important thing is that this house should be saved. It is part of our heritage. The main thing is to save that house. \$100,000 or \$80,000 is not a lot of money.

Rosellini stated that it would be \$75,000 to move it if we get the money from the homeowner.

Committeewoman Bader stated that she is the liaison to HPRC. Montville needs to save its historic sites.

Moscone stated that we don't have the money, but I do feel strongly that we should save the house. Where do we find the money?

Committeeman Grants stated that he agrees with the committee. There must be a way to get down to the core house and move it.

Barile stated that they would have to move the additions.

Joseph Rompala, Township Administrator, stated that he would see this as a capital project. I believe we have sufficient funding in the capital improvement fund for the down payment.

Rosellini stated that by the next meeting, November 9th, we need to come up with possibilities of where to move it and have the funding mechanism on the agenda. We also need the Planning Board to issue a c.o., get a signed agreement that we will move it, and how much money we will get.