Friends of Abolition Hall

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
February 12, 2020

CONTACT:
Sydelle Zove
Sydelle.Zove@gmail.com

Statement Regarding Litigation and Land Development

Commonwealth Court Appeal

The Friends of Abolition Hall and its co-appellants have determined to withdraw the appeal filed with Commonwealth Court. Despite our firm belief in the merits of this appeal, the mounting costs of continuing the appellate process and a recent threat of litigation against us preclude our pursuit of legal recourse through the courts.

Plan Review at the Local Level (Whitemarsh Township)

- On December 10, 2019, in a unanimous vote, the Whitemarsh Township Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors deny approval of the developer’s preliminary plan.

- On January 7, 2020, the developer advised the Township that its experts were revising those plans for resubmission. In that same email, the developer conveyed its decision to extend the deadline for Township consideration to May 31, 2020.

- Once the developer submits revised plans, Township staff and the Consulting Engineer will review them and issue review memos. From there, we anticipate the Board of Supervisors will add the project to its agenda for presentation and discussion at a regular public meeting.

- We continue to hope the revised plans will recognize the significance of the homestead, that natural resources, including trees, wetlands, and water-filled sinkholes will be protected, and that both the developer and the Township will embrace our call for the creation of a publicly accessible welcome park adjacent to Abolition Hall.

###