

Historical Commission of Birmingham Township
Minutes of the meeting of February 28, 2017

The regular meeting of the Birmingham Township Historical Committee was called to order by Chairman Carla Westerman at 7:20 pm in the township building.

PRESENT: HC Members: Matt Bedwell, Mike Forbes, Carla Westerman, Kate Marshall

ABSENT: Nancy Needham

Others present: Brad Adey, Ken Paulson and Catherine Matson

Ms. Westerman made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2017 meeting with the noted corrections/changes. Mr. Bedwell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public

Brad Adey was present at the meeting to discuss the placement of the run in sheds on their property at 1301 Birmingham Rd. The placement has been changed from the proposed location due to the set-back requirements. The new location is pencilled in on the drawing. The run in sheds will be different sizes. One is 8x10 and one s 8x12.

Mr. Forbes asked whether the buildings will be set on footings only and no foundations. Mr. Adey confirms they will just be on footings.

Ms. Westerman asked if the sheds will be natural wood and left to age over time? He indicated that the samples of the white siding were dropped off at the township for the HARB meeting.

Ms. Marshall asked why the sheds were two different sizes. Mr. Adey states that the different sizing is based on the size of the two paddocks - the smaller shed will be in the smaller paddock along Thornbury Rd.

Ms. Westerman asked if the one shed will be visible from Thornbury Road? Mr. Adey confirms that it will be visible from Thornbury Rd.

Ms. Westerman asked if Mr. Adey had contacted Mr. Randall Spackman (his neighbor on the Thornbury township side). Mr. Adey indicated that the address for Mr. Spackman was incorrect. However, the mailman was persistent and he delivered the letter and then Mr. Spackman called Mr. Adey and gave his verbal blessing.

Ms. Westerman made a motion to recommend to the BOS that the two proposed sheds be placed at the revised locations on the plans due to the required set-backs. Seconded by Mr. Forbes. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Town Tour

Ms. Westerman asked that the HC members please mark their calendars for the date of July 6, 2017 (5:30pm to 8:00pm). She sent a letter to the Birmingham Meeting requesting if they want to participate in this event. They will be meeting this Sunday (March 5, 2017) to vote on their participation in the

Town Tour. She asked if they have a dosien to give a background on the Quaker philosophy or offered to provide a dosien, if they don't have a volunteer.

Ms. Westerman contacted Ron Bowers, Caretaker at the Birmingham Lafayette Cemetery to request approval to go through the cemetery. He indicated that it is open for the public to walk through and no further permission is needed.

Ms. Westerman attended the January BOS to verify their support. She verified with Quina Nelling that the insurance policy is adequate to cover a public event such as this. Karen Marshall is attending the March Thornbury meeting to verify that their insurance policy is adequate also since most of the tour will be located in Thornbury township even though it is being hosted by Birmingham township.

Karen Marshall, John Conklin and Ms. Westerman walked this preliminarily to make sure it was feasible. In March(date TBD), Ms. Westerman has planned to walk this again with Randall Spackman and a representative from the Brandywine Conservatory to develop the 3-5 minute talks at each of the stops. The walk will be approximately 1 mile with 8 stops. Parking will be on the Spackman property. The registration will be at first stop which is the the Spackman barn; the next stops will be: the Spackman farmhouse, the hollow, the spring house, then cross over Thornbury Road and walk along what used to be an old road to the Meeting House, the octagonal schoolhouse, and the Birmingham Lafayette cemetery. The tour will return to the Spackman property for light refreshments at which point a driving map may be provided for those wishing to continue their brief tour.

Update on HR

Kate Marshall notes that she has some photographs for the HR google document that need to be uploaded to the folders for the specific HRs. Ms. Marshall stated that they need a folder for the one new HR that they found on the van drive. Ms. Marshall has offered to take photos of the assigned HRs that any of the HC members have not been able to get yet.

Ms. Westerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. Seconded by Mr. Forbes and voted unanimously. The next meeting will be March 28, 2017 at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Boorse
HC Secretary