

Historical Commission of Birmingham Township
Minutes of the meeting of October 27, 2020

The regular meeting of the Birmingham Township Historical Committee was called to order by Chairperson, Mike Forbes at **7:17pm** via Zoom.

PRESENT: HC Members: Matt Bedwell, Kelly Fleming, Mike Forbes, John Ponticello

ABSENT:

Others present: Dan Hill

Mr. Forbes made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2020 meeting. Ms. Fleming seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Forbes made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2020 Joint Task Force work session for the Brandywine Battlefield Interpretation Plan (consisting of the Birmingham Township Historical Commission and the Planning Commission) with the noted wording change in Goal #3 per Mr. Forbes email. Ms. Fleming seconded the motion with this change and it passed unanimously.

Recommendation from BTHC for Brandywine Battlefield Interpretation Plan

Mr. Forbes forwarded a draft recommendation to the HC members prior to this meeting for discussion tonight. No discussion is necessary as everyone agrees that the recommendation is what was discussed and agreed upon at the work session. Mr. Forbes made a motion to forward the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for the Brandywine Battlefield Interpretation Plan with the following outcomes: (1) to locate a Heritage Center in the Dilworthtown Historic District; (2) Interpretative sites to be planned at Sandy Hollow, two at Birmingham Hill (one for the Line of Battle and one for the Friends Meeting House); and (3) at the Dilworthtown Historic District. The goals and objectives of the plan should be modified as articulated in the attached document. Mr. Ponticello seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Ms. Fleming noted that the Brandywine Battlefield interpretative Marker Project signage has been on hold while the commission figured out what the plan was for Birmingham Hill. Now that some decisions have been made, she would like to reach out to Andrew Outten for the proposed language he has for a marker at Birmingham Hill. She has a subcommittee meeting for that group on Thursday and thus will have more information for the HC next month.

Mr. Ponticello noted that after the work session meeting, he went to the Heritage Center located next to the Four Dogs restaurant and spoke with Ms. Kaat. As we move forward with the Birmingham township plan, she would be willing to provide some insight on the funding necessary to bring the plan to fruition. Mr. Bedwell indicated that he reached out to Mr. Shirring about setting up a meeting with the contact in Dilworthtown to determine interest in the Heritage Center.

Mr. Ponticello asked if anyone else will be attending the Brandywine Conservancy Master Plan meeting for Birmingham Hill tomorrow night. Ms. Fleming will be attending as a neighbor.

Mr. Forbes asked Mr. Hill if there are any potential volunteers to fill the current vacancy on the Historical Commission. Mr. Hill is not aware of any at this time. It was suggested that the opening be listed on the township website.

Mr. Forbes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37pm. Seconded by Ms. Fleming and voted unanimously. The next meeting will be November 24, 2020 at 7:15pm (via Zoom).

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Boorse
HC Secretary