

BIRMINGHAM TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

Minutes of the meeting of March 15, 2011

Declaring a quorum, Chairman Tony Webb **called to order** the regular meeting of the Birmingham Township HARB in the Township Building at 7:05 p.m. with Elizabeth Lawrence and Scott Garrison present. Pete Davenport had notified the Secretary that he would be absent.

The **minutes** of the January 4 meeting were approved without comment.

Tony Dufour of W.D. Wells & Associates rose to represent Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dufour (unrelated) of **1012 Radley Drive**. Mr. Dufour presented a plan dated 3/1/11 to replace the existing 25-year-old raised wood decks behind the house with a grade-level molded brick patio with bluestone edging and steps. Mr. Dufour said the ledger-board gap left by the deck removal will be replaced with matching siding. The plan included a landscape design with groundcover and native plants and replacement of a flagstone path with a molded brick path matching the patio. Color photographs of the brick, the bluestone, and the back of the house accompanied the plan. The Chairman said that issues of drainage and runoff would be left to the Building Inspector. On a motion by Mrs. Lawrence, seconded by Dr. Garrison and approved with all in favor, the HARB recommended that a Certificate of Appropriateness be issued for this plan to remove the decks, replace the siding piece, and build a new patio and plant the groundcover, as described above.

At 7:15 Richard Jensen arrived. Mr. Webb reported that a plan is being discussed that may eliminate the overlap issues between the HARB and the Historical Commission. Mr. Jensen said the plan is to coordinate reviews with a joint meeting when a historic property is in a Historic District.

RPOS Chairman Michael Langer presented a PowerPoint description of ideas for the Township to celebrate its 325th anniversary with an event on the afternoon of August 27 (rain date September 24). Mr. Langer said that adequate parking space will be the biggest problem and that, after a very fruitful meeting with the Brandywine Conservancy, the planners may confine the event to Birmingham Hill, rather than dividing it between there and Sandy Hollow. The present guesstimate of attendance is 400 people. The focus is now leaning toward sharing the Township's history, rather than emphasizing entertainment. Mr. Langer described the progress and repeated the need for volunteers. HARB members made numerous suggestions regarding logistics needs, organizations that might provide volunteers, individuals with costumes and skills and experience, publicity, entertainment and supporters. Dr. Garrison said he would recruit volunteers at the Historical Commission meeting and suggested they may be able to create a display of the historical artifacts from the meeting room closet. Mr. Jensen said he would contact several people regarding re-enactors. Mr. Langer agreed that there should be a joint meeting of all involved and invited everyone to contact him at tentimes@aol.com with names, help and suggestions. An alternate contact is RPOS member Greg Kurey –

Gkurey@siegfriedgroup.com - who is co-chairing the event planning. At Mr. Jensen's suggestion, Mr. Langer will attempt to give the volunteer recruitment prominence on the Township website.

With no further business, the members **adjourned** at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacquie Roach
Substituting for Gail Ayers

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