

**BIRMINGHAM TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY  
RECREATION, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE (RPOS)**

**January 19, 2011**

Chairman Michael Langer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Building. The following were in attendance:

Michael Langer	Chairman, RPOS Committee
Mark Beauchamp	Member, RPOS Committee
Robert Main	Member, RPOS Committee
Jeff Corrigan	Member, RPOS Committee
Chuck Feld	Member, RPOS Committee
Judy Jensen	Secretary, RPOS Committee

Absent from the meeting was Vice-Chairman Greg Kurey.

**APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2010 MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes for the November 17, 2010 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

**APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes for the September 15, 2010 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Langer welcomed newest RPOS member Chuck Feld to the committee. Mr. Feld is filling a vacancy left by former RPOS member Jay Monteith, whose term expires in 2015.

Chairman Langer also recognized former member Dan Hill, who recently stepped down from RPOS. Mr. Hill served on RPOS for many years, and the committee wishes to thank Mr. Hill for both his service and his many contributions to the committee and the Township.

**BILLS**

Mr. Beauchamp opened the following bids received by RPOS concerning the replacement of fencing at Sandy Hollow:

- Land Art - bid of \$14,521
- Fence Authority - bid of \$16,695
- Dan Eldridge Fencing - bid of \$14464
- Fence Works - bid of \$6,206

The lowest bidder was Fence Works. Chairman Langer noted that, in the past, RPOS has had a good working relationship with Fence Works.

Mr. Corrigan made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that Fence Works be awarded the contract to complete the necessary fence replacement work at

Sandy Hollow at a cost of \$6,206. Mr. Main seconded the motion. The motion was approved; all in favor.

### **BRANDYWINE VALLEY SCENIC BYWAYS COMMISSION**

The Board of Supervisors has asked RPOS for their recommendation concerning whether or not Birmingham Township should continue its participation in the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byways Commission. Participation in the Byways Commission is voluntary and each participating Township is asked to send two Township volunteers to attend the Byway Commission meetings.

At tonight's meeting, Jay Monteith, a former RPOS member and current member of the Byways Commission, presented an overview of the work of the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byways Commission.

Mr. Monteith noted that the scenic byway through Birmingham Township exists and will continue to exist even if the Township does not participate on the Byway Commission. Creek Road is part of the byway and because it is a state road, Mr. Monteith feels the Township has little control over the road. He believes that as a Byways Commission member, Birmingham Township will be in a better position to provide input to the state concerning Creek Road.

Mr. Monteith said disadvantages in participating in the Byways Commission include the cost to Birmingham for participation, which is \$500 per year. Also, he noted that finalization of the Corridor Management Plan (CMP) could take a year and implementing it could take an additional year.

Bruce Yelton, a Pocopson resident and member of the Byways Commission, said the Commission is a multi-municipal effort whose goal is to preserve the natural and historic features of the land surrounding the byway. Primary deliverables of the Byways Commission, he added, include preservation, roadway maintenance and conservation. Mr. Yelton also said rumors that the Byways Commission wants to promote tourism, including tour buses, are not true.

Chairman Langer asked RPOS members for their opinion as to whether Birmingham Township should continue its participation on the Byways Commission. In the past, one of the volunteers on the Byways Commission has also been a member of RPOS. After a discussion, RPOS members agreed that due to work schedules and the volunteer service they already provide to RPOS, they do not have the time necessary to volunteer on another committee. Currently, Birmingham Township has two residents, Mr. Monteith and Mary Pat McCarthy, willing to participate on the Byways Commission. Neither currently serves on RPOS.

Mr. Main noted that with two willing volunteers (Mr. Monteith and Mrs. McCarthy) and the nominal cost of \$500 per year, he feels it would be a good idea for Birmingham Township to continue its participation on the Byways Commission because it would allow the Township to provide input as work on the byway continues. Mr. Corrigan agreed.

Mr. Main made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the Township continue to support the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byways Commission, as well as the two Township volunteer effort on the Commission, as long as the input from Birmingham

Township is provided by volunteers not currently serving on RPOS. Mr. Corrigan seconded the motion. The motion was approved; all in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

After a discussion on the election of RPOS officers for the coming year, Mr. Beauchamp made a motion that Michael Langer continue as Chairman and Robert Main assume the role of Vice-Chairman. Mr. Corrigan seconded the motion. The motion was approved; all in favor.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2010.

With no further public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen  
RPOS Secretary