

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

May 20, 2019

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

Anne Siemer	Chairman, RPOS Committee
Chuck Feld	Vice-Chairman, RPOS Committee
Jim Rosenthal	Member, RPOS Committee
Dave Shields	Member, RPOS Committee
Dan Hill	Member, Board of Supervisors
Judy Jensen	Secretary, RPOS Committee

Absent from the meeting was Member Bob Socash.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 15, 2019 MINUTES

The minutes of the April 15, 2019 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

BILLS

RPOS reviewed a \$31.74 reimbursement request from Judy Jensen from Staples for the cost to print a proof of an interpretive sign planned for Sandy Hollow.

RPOS reviewed a \$65 bill from Gumball Media Services for checking park trails and removing trash and branches from the trail. The committee also reviewed a \$45 bill from Gumball Media Services for a site visit to the trail at Birmingham Hill.

SANDY HOLLOW UPDATE

Mrs. Siemer said that sometime in June she plans to repaint the Sandy Hollow cannon.

She also said that there has been a few times when the dog waste station has other trash, such as plastic bottles, in the container. She has had to clean out the trash in the dog waste station a few times this spring. Also, Brian of Gumball Media Services has found bags of dog waste thrown over the fence at Sandy Hollow and onto private property. Mrs. Siemer spoke to Tracey Clevens of Clevens K9 Scoop about placing a second dog waste station at Sandy Hollow. The second station could be placed close to New Street so that Clevens K9 Scoop could maintain it more easily. Tracey said that the cost to install a second station at Sandy Hollow would be \$449.95 and the cost to maintain the two stations would be \$38 per week. RPOS members all agreed that a second dog waste station at Sandy Hollow would be a good idea.

Mr. Rosenthal made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that a second dog waste station be placed at Sandy Hollow due to the number of people who walk dogs at the park. The motion was seconded by Dave Shields. The motion was approved; all in favor.

BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE

John Wagner, who works for the Brandywine Conservancy, has cut the hedge by the O'Dell property so that people can walk on one side of Meetinghouse Road instead of

crossing Meetinghouse when walking the Birmingham Hill trail. Mr. Feld said he will remove the stump in the O'Dell driveway so that walking the trail will be easier. He also plans to regrade the driveway, which is currently a bit steep.

Mrs. Siemer also brought a sample of a trail sign that could be laminated and placed along the Birmingham Hill trail to indicate to walkers that they no longer need to cross Meetinghouse Road and can instead walk on the O'Dell side of Meetinghouse Road. RPOS agreed to place a few of the signs on fence posts to help indicate that the trail no longer crosses Meetinghouse Road. At some point in the future, Mrs. Siemer would like to add information on the main parking lot sign at Birmingham Hill indicating exactly where the trail goes.

INTERPRETIVE SIGNS

Mrs. Jensen presented the proof printed at Staples for the interpretive sign panel that she and Mrs. Siemer have been working on. RPOS approved the sign and Mr. Rosenthal, speaking for the committee members, thanked Mrs. Jensen and Mrs. Siemer for their work in creating the newest sign.

Mrs. Siemer made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the interpretive sign panel as presented at tonight's meeting be placed at either Sandy Hollow or Birmingham Hill. Mr. Shields seconded the motion. The motion was approved; all in favor.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION PRESENTATION

Kelly Fleming from the Historical Commission presented information on the Brandywine Battlefield Interpretive Marker Project. According to the project, an interpretive network would be created for the entire 35,000-acre Brandywine Battlefield. Specifically, driving tours would link Interpretive Markers that will be placed in each of the 15 Townships that the driving tour would go through. The signs will have about 85 words of text and will include the logo of the Township at the top of the sign. Lettering will be off-white letters on a blue background. The project will be managed by a subcommittee of the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force. Each affected Township is being asked to select a site for the historic marker. The site should allow two to three cars to pull over to read the sign and does not have to be right on the road. After a discussion, RPOS agreed that the best place to install the marker sign would probably be Birmingham Hill because there is a parking lot there and people could pull into the lot and park so they could safely access the sign.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Siemer welcomed new member Dave Shields to RPOS. Speaking for the committee she thanked Mr. Shields for volunteering his time and talents to the Township and to RPOS.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2019.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen
RPOS Secretary