

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

January 18, 2021

Chairman Anne Siemer called the Zoom meeting of RPOS to order at 7:10 p.m. The following were in attendance:

Anne Siemer	Chairman, RPOS Committee
Chuck Feld	Vice-Chairman, RPOS Committee
Bob Socash	Member, RPOS Committee
Dan Hill	Member, Board of Supervisors
Judy Jensen	Secretary, RPOS Committee

ORGANIZATION FOR 2021

Mr. Socash made a motion to retain Anne Siemer as Chairman of RPOS and Chuck Feld as Vice-Chairman of RPOS for 2021. Mr. Feld seconded the motion. The motion was approved; all in favor.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2020 MINUTES

The minutes of the December 21, 2020 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

BILLS

There were no bills to review at tonight's meeting.

SANDY HOLLOW UPDATE

Mrs. Siemer noted that about nine sections of fencing has collapsed at Sandy Hollow. When the weather improves, RPOS plans to rebuild the fence.

The new entrance sign has arrived. RPOS plans to install the new sign and take out the old sign as soon as the weather cooperates.

Mr. Feld said he will start obtaining bids for mowing at Sandy Hollow for 2021.

BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE

RPOS plans to replace the entrance sign at Birmingham Hill. Mrs. Siemer has sent a draft of the guidelines for the new sign to the Brandywine Conservancy. The Conservancy reviewed the draft and were fine with the text as presented in the draft. Mrs. Siemer will also send a draft of the guidelines to the Board of Supervisors for their review. The new sign will be installed on the frame that is currently at the park.

PECO plans to remove the tree on Meetinghouse Road that is leaning against the fence.

Mrs. Siemer said that a few rails need to be replaced on the fencing along the trail.

There is currently an area at Birmingham Hill that is eroding. Mr. Feld suggested that to stop the erosion, 6 inch by 6 inch wood should be installed at angles to help send the water back onto the field.

When the weather permits, RPOS plans to place wood chips along the trail and replace broken fence rails.

POSSIBLE PROJECTS FOR 2021

RPOS is considering developing another interpretive sign panel. Two possible ideas for the panel are camp followers or Lafayette and his role in the Battle of the Brandywine, as well as his return visit to West Chester and Sandy Hollow in 1825.

The cannon at Sandy Hollow will probably need to be sanded and repainted sometime in 2021.

A reenactment is planned at Sandy Hollow in September of 2022. RPOS members discussed whether they would like to complete some landscaping work before the reenactment and whether they should consider investigating possible grants to help defray the cost.

RPOS still likes the idea of placing a bench at Birmingham Hill but feels they should wait until they know what improvements the Brandywine Conservancy is planning for the property.

NEW BUSINESS

RPOS has two vacancies on the committee. Kathleen Brecker and Brian Bonkowski have both expressed interest in joining RPOS and attended tonight's meeting. Mrs. Siemer described the many activities that RPOS has been involved in over the years. Both Mrs. Brecker and Mr. Bonkowski were enthusiastic about joining the committee and helping with the projects. Mrs. Siemer said RPOS is pleased to recommend both Mrs. Brecker and Mr. Bonkowski to the Board of Supervisors for appointment to RPOS.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2021.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen
RPOS Secretary