

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

**June 21, 2021**

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

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MAY 17, 2021 MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 17, 2021, RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

**BILLS**

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

**BIRMINGHAM HILL TRAIL EXTENSION**

A representative of the Brandywine Conservancy had planned to attend tonight's meeting but was unable to be present tonight. The Conservancy is proposing to create a trail along Wylie Road that would connect to the existing parking lot and public trail on Birmingham Road.

RPOS members discussed the proposed trail, including such concerns as maintenance of the trail, the entrance to the trail, parking, fencing, and traffic concerns on Wylie Road. Further discussion was tabled until the July RPOS meeting when their concerns can be discussed with a representative from the Conservancy.

**MONARCH BUTTERFLY POPULATION AND MILKWEED**

At the May RPOS meeting, Lois Bryman, a resident of Birmingham Hunt, requested that the milkweed in certain areas at Sandy Hollow be allowed to grow, instead of being mowed during the summer. Ms. Bryman noted that Monarch butterflies rely on milkweed for laying their eggs. In addition, the caterpillars eat milkweed. Due to herbicides, pesticides, acid rain and invasive plants, the population of Monarchs is on the decline. Since that meeting, Mrs. Siemer and Mr. Feld have met with Ms. Bryman at Sandy Hollow. There is a large patch of milkweed off New Street. RPOS will ask Jamie Hicks not to mow the dense growths of milkweed.

**BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE**

At a recent Saturday workday at Birmingham Hill, RPOS members, along with BOS Member Dan Hill, completed the following maintenance work:

- Replaced a fence post and several rails.
- Trimmed shrubs and trees.
- Removed a very large tree branch.

Earlier in the month, Brian from LandArt removed another large tree branch that had fallen along the Birmingham Hill trail. Mr. Feld said he will spray the poison ivy that is growing along the trail. Also, there are a couple of fence rails at Birmingham Hill and Sandy Hollow that need to be replaced. RPOS will replace the rails during their next workday.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Siemer noted that there is a Facebook group called the Brandywine Valley Kayaking, Canoeing and Tubing, which talks about those activities on the different streams and waterways in this area.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2021.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen  
RPOS Secretary