

**Historical Commission of Birmingham Township
Minutes of the meeting of July 24, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Birmingham Township Historical Committee was called to order by Chairperson, Mike Forbes at **7:16 pm** in the township building.

PRESENT: HC Members: Matt Bedwell, Mike Forbes, John Ponticello, Jeff Janofsky

ABSENT: Kelly Fleming

Others present: Georgianne Jacobs, Steven Hoffman, Dave McGinnis

Prior to the meeting the HC members met with Mr. Janofsky. Mr. Forbes made a recommendation to approve Mr. Jeff Janofsky to fill the HC vacant term ending in 2019. Seconded by Mr. Bedwell and approved unanimously. Mr. Janofsky was previously interviewed by the BOS at the July 9, 2018 meeting and thus can be a voting member of the HC effective tonight.

Mr. Forbes made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2018 meeting. Mr. Ponticello seconded the motion and it passed with one abstention from Mr. Janofsky who just joined the committee.

Application for 1001 Country Club Rd modifications (HR#9)

Ms. Jacobs presented to the HC that they uncovered an old filled in pool on the property and they would like to restore it to its original glory. From what they can tell, the pool is approximately 50 years old and was originally built by Sylvan Pools. They expected the pool to be in ruins, however, it is actually salvageable. They are planning to put a new gunite shell in it, the pool is 43 feet long and 23 feet wide. They will be using blue stone coping around the edge of the pool. During the excavation process, they uncovered 2500 square feet of blue stone decking. They are planning to reuse this Pennsylvania blue stone around the pool.

The pool is located 200 feet from the side porch of the house. Pictures of the pool area, and other aspects of the property were reviewed tonight. The applicants provided samples of the stone that will be used for this project. They also provided pictures and samples of the fencing options they have obtained pricing for. They are planning to use a split rail fence with the required pool wire fencing in the areas that are seen and the wire fencing with steel posts in the more brush area. The gate will be spring-locked to code.

Mr. Forbes completed the required form throughout the discussion during the meeting and read the answers as he completed the form.

Mr. Forbes made a motion that the HC recommend approval to the BOS of the demolition/alterations to restore the pool located at 1001 Country Club Road (HR#9) per the application. Mr. Bedwell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Discussion to elect a new Vice Chairperson

Mr. Forbes notes that it is pertinent that the HC have a Vice Chairperson to ensure that meetings can occur if by chance he is unable to attend a meeting. The Vice Chairperson was Kate and she has

resigned. He understands that many of the members are new, however, there is no time requirement for this role. Discussion ensued about who should be the Vice Chairperson. Mr. Janofsky volunteered. Mr. Forbes made a motion recommending that Mr. Janofsky be the Vice Chairperson. Seconded by Mr. Bedwell and approved unanimously.

Discussion of next steps for Brandywine Battlefield Connectivity Plan

Discussion ensued about how the presentation went at the July 9th BOS meeting. This topic was tabled at that meeting and thus the grant application will not be able to begin until early 2019 at this point. There are some details that need to be ironed out before this can move forward: such as the funding of the grant writing; who is going to head up the grant writing; and what are the deliverables to the township/public from this connectivity plan. Additionally, during the grant writing process, the township will need to provide a point person - whether it is a member of the HC, RPOS, PC or even one of the BOS members directly. The goal of this connectivity plan is that the same message is being communicated at all locations related to the history of this area.

Mr. Forbes will await guidance from the BOS on how to proceed at this point.

New Business

Mr. Forbes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. Seconded by Mr. Ponticello and voted unanimously. The next meeting will be August 28, 2018 at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Boorse
HC Secretary