

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

**August 21, 2017**

Chairman Siemer called the meeting to order at 7:02 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
Michael Langer	Member, RPOS Committee
Jim Kelican	Member, RPOS Committee
Judy Jensen	Secretary, RPOS Committee

**APPROVAL OF THE JULY 17, 2017 MINUTES**

The minutes of the July 17, 2017 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

**BILLS**

RPOS reviewed the quote from Pannier for \$1022.00, which includes tax, to cover the cost of the interpretive sign Pannier is making for Birmingham Hill. Of the \$1022, \$375 is for the 3' x 2' sign panel and \$542 is for the base of the sign.

Mr. Langer presented a \$10.47 bill from Brandywine Ace Hardware and a \$43.18 bill from Walmart for reimbursement. The bills are for supplies he purchased to repair the cannon at Sandy Hollow.

**BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE**

Mr. Feld noted that one post and 10 rails along the fencing at Birmingham Hill need to be replaced. He will pick up supplies at Brandywine Ace Hardware. RPOS will make the needed repairs after the reenactment.

Mrs. Jensen said she added "2012" to the interpretive sign file to indicate that the map being used on the sign is the County's 2012 version. Mrs. Jensen also noted that she has sent the file for the interpretive sign to Pannier. Pannier will send a proof of the sign to the Township for RPOS to review before they produce the final sign. After a brief discussion, RPOS agreed that the sign should be placed along the trail near the corner on Birmingham Road, rather than in the parking lot near the other interpretive sign.

**SANDY HOLLOW UPDATE**

At a previous meeting, RPOS noted that the paint on the replica cannon at Sandy Hollow is peeling and there is a crack on the top of the cannon. Mr. Langer has been trying for several months to speak with Forrest Taylor, the maker of the cannon, about the needed repairs. Mr. Langer has not heard back from Mr. Taylor. Due to the fact that there has been no contact from Mr. Taylor, RPOS has decided to repair the cannon themselves.

As of tonight's meeting, Mr. Langer has filled in the cracks on the cannon with waterproof epoxy. The repair needs to be sanded, primed and painted. The paint on the wheels of the cannon has also begun to peel a bit and RPOS discussed whether they

should paint the entire cannon at this time. Since painting the wheels of the cannon will be a slow and meticulous job, the committee decided that they will sand, prime and paint the cracked area on the cannon before the reenactment in mid-September and will paint the remainder of the cannon at a later date, after the reenactment. Mr. Langer said he will send an email to committee members so they can pick a date this week or early next week for finishing the repairs to the cracked area on the cannon.

### **BRANDYWINE 2017**

Mrs. Siemer said she will call Mr. Hicks and ask him to mow the field at Sandy Hollow over Labor Day so that stakes can be placed there for the reenactment. Mr. Feld will continue to meet with the people who are handling parking for the event. Firewood for the reenactors will be delivered to Sandy Hollow closer to the event.

Mrs. Siemer has volunteered to oversee the Township tent. T-shirts and mugs will be sold at the tent. In addition, a couple of maps for visitors to view will be set up in the tent. Mrs. Siemer said it might be a nice idea to include photos of the artifacts that were found at the Sandy Hollow and Birmingham Hill sites.

Mr Rosenthal mentioned that Radley Run will also be helping out at the event.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Siemer noted that the Brandywine Conservancy (Brandywine Creek Greenway) has developed an app that includes nature centers in the area. She said that both Sandy Hollow and Birmingham Hill are included in the app.

RPOS members briefly discussed the barn on the Cacchio property (1370 Birmingham Road). RPOS has been concerned about the condition of the barn. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) also has concerns about the ongoing maintenance of the barn, as well as what the structure could be used for if it is preserved, and has received an estimate of \$75,000 to fix the roof and stabilize the structure. The estimate does not include any ongoing maintenance costs. Although Chester County has expressed some interest in preserving the barn, as of tonight's meeting, RPOS does not know whether the County would cover cost of renovation and liability if the barn is preserved.

Mr. Langer announced that he will be stepping down from RPOS due to a move from the Township. RPOS thanked Mr. Langer for his nearly 20 years of service to the Township and RPOS. Mrs. Siemer, speaking for the committee, added that RPOS is grateful for both the vision Mr. Langer brought to RPOS, as well as his energy in developing and implementing RPOS projects that have been such an asset to the Township and its residents.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2017.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen  
RPOS Secretary