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

July 15, 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
Bob Socash	Member, RPOS Committee
Dan Hill	Member, Board of Supervisors
Judy Jensen	Secretary, RPOS Committee

Absent from the meeting was Member Dave Shields.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 17, 2019 MINUTES

The minutes of the June 17, 2019 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 the Board of Supervisors approved the placement of a second dog waste station at Sandy Hollow. It will be located near the pine trees on South New Street.

Mrs. Siemer said she will repaint the cannon in the fall when the weather is cooler.

BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE

Mr. Feld, Mr. Socash, Mr. Shields and Mrs. Jensen, along with volunteer Verne Weidman, met on Saturday morning (July 6) and removed the fence rails and posts along the Worth property on Meetinghouse Road. As always, Mr. Feld made sure that all the equipment needed for the job was present. RPOS is very grateful to Mr. Feld for all the prep work he does before maintenance activities, such as the fence removal project, at both Sandy Hollow and Birmingham Hill. Mr. Feld also re-drilled the holes on the fence posts so that flags can be placed in the current fencing along the trail at Birmingham Hill. Mrs. Siemer has been placing the flags along the fencing on holidays, such as Fourth of July and Veteran's Day.

Mr. Feld said John Wagner has mowed a perimeter trail around the field at Birmingham Hill on the Brandywine Conservancy property. RPOS agreed that the mowed trail looks great.

Mrs. Siemer has laminated trail signs and posted them on the fence posts to show visitors exactly where the Birmingham Hill Trail goes and to indicate to visitors that they no longer have to cross Meetinghouse Road when walking the trail.

RPOS discussed the possibility of placing a dog waste station at Birmingham Hill. The committee agreed that a dog waste station could be installed at the parking lot of Birmingham Hill and the committee could see if visitors use it. The dog waste station could be a project for 2020. But in the meantime, Mrs. Siemer will check with Tracey Clemens of Clemens K9 Scoop to see how much a third dog waste station would cost. There are currently two dog waste stations at Sandy Hollow, which are maintained by Clemens K9 Scoop.

INTERPRETIVE SIGNS

Mr. Rosenthal said he will call Pannier and ask about the sign panel. The panel, when it is finished, will be mailed to Mr. Feld.

NEW BUSINESS

Due to its current poor state, Mrs. Siemer said it would be nice to have a plan to replace the sign at Birmingham Hill. She envisions a sign that would welcome visitors to the park, and could include not only the rules of the park, but also a diagram of the trail, as well as a little history about the trail. The new sign would probably have to be about 2 feet by 3 feet. Mr. Rosenthal said he will call Pannier and inquire about the process that RPOS should use to layout such a sign, as well as the cost.

Mr. Rosenthal presented information about the Town Walk that he is helping to organize at Radley Run Country Club. He is looking for presenters to help give brief talks to visitors to the Town Walk. Mr. Rosenthal said they expect between 600 and 700 people to attend the Town Walk.

Mr. Socash noted that there are no benches along the Birmingham Hill trail. He thought it might be a nice idea to install a bench or two on the trail for visitors to use to rest since the trail is about a mile long to its end and then visitors have to walk another mile to get back to the parking lot. Mrs. Siemer said she will look into the covenants for the park and make sure that benches are allowed. RPOS said they could also ask the Brandywine Conservancy about the possibility of installing a bench or two at the park. RPOS also agreed that if benches are installed, they should consider the neighbors when picking out possible locations for the benches.

RPOS welcomed Boy Scout James Young who was attending tonight's meeting as part of earning a merit badge.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2019.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen RPOS Secretary