

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

January 20, 2020

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
Bob Socash	Member, RPOS Committee
Dave Shields	Member, RPOS Committee
Jim Rosenthal	Member, RPOS Committee
Dan Hill	Member, Board of Supervisors
Judy Jensen	Secretary, RPOS Committee

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2019 MINUTES

The minutes of the December 16, 2019 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

BILLS

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

ORGANIZATION FOR 2020

Concerning the Chairman and Vice-Chairman positions for 2020, Mr. Socash made a motion to nominate Mrs. Siemer to continue as Chairman and Mr. Feld to continue as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Shields seconded the motion. The motion was approved; all in favor.

BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE

Mrs. Siemer noted that she has ordered small trail signs for the Birmingham Hill trail from Goshen Signs. RPOS agreed they would meet in the near future to install the signs along the trail.

RPOS has been discussing the need to replace the worn entrance signs at both Birmingham Hill and Sandy Hollow. However, the budget for both parks is limited. For instance, the budget for Sandy Hollow is \$15,000. In 2019, about \$11,000 was spent on maintenance at the park. The maintenance costs for 2020 will be about the same. Therefore, there will be little extra money in the budget for entrance signs. The cost to make an entrance sign through Pannier (the company that has been making the interpretive signs) is about \$1,400 per sign. A simpler sign made by Goshen Signs would be about \$250 per sign and if RPOS decided to look into that option, the signs could be placed in the same wood structures that are currently at the parks, although the structures themselves are worn. RPOS members agreed that the best option is to wait till the fall to see what kind of money is left in the RPOS budget. If there is money in the fall, RPOS could consider moving forward on replacing the entrance signs at the parks.

Mrs. Siemer recently met with Sheila Fleming of the Brandywine Conservancy. The Brandywine Conservancy has been working on a master plan for Birmingham Hill and plans to hold public meetings on the plan as it is developed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Siemer was sent information from the Township on The Great American Cleanup. Organizations register with the Cleanup and are given bags and vests for cleaning up local roads. The state will pick up the bags of trash either free of charge or for a reduced cost.

This spring, RPOS plans to mulch the trail at Birmingham Hill. It has been a couple of years since the trail was mulched and the committee feels that a workday spent mulching the trail would be a good idea.

Mrs. Siemer announced that RPOS Member Dave Shields is leaving RPOS to join the Township's Planning Commission. Speaking for the committee, Mrs. Siemer noted how much RPOS has enjoyed getting to know Mr. Shields and how much of a pleasure it has been to have him as a member of RPOS. Mr. Shields said that he has enjoyed his time on RPOS, but due to time constraints, cannot be a member of two Township committees. However, he said he would be happy to help with RPOS projects in the future.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2020.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen
RPOS Secretary