

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

**December 21, 2020**

Chairman Anne Siemer called the Zoom meeting of RPOS to order at 7:05 p.m. The following were in attendance:

|             |                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Anne Siemer | Chairman, RPOS Committee      |
| Chuck Feld  | Vice-Chairman, RPOS Committee |
| Bob Socash  | Member, RPOS Committee        |
| Judy Jensen | Secretary, RPOS Committee     |

**PASSING OF JIM ROSENTHAL**

RPOS members began the meeting remembering Committee Member Jim Rosenthal, who passed away on December 8, 2020. Jim, who served for many years on RPOS, was a very active member on the committee. He was very instrumental in helping get the interpretive signs completed and installed at Sandy Hollow and Birmingham Hill. He also took a huge role in helping make both reenactments at Sandy Hollow the success they were. He was a very pleasant man, was well liked by the committee and everyone on RPOS enjoyed working with him. He will be greatly missed.

**APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2020 MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 19, 2020 RPOS meeting were approved, as written; all in favor.

**BILLS**

RPOS reviewed a \$1,398 bill from Pannier for the new entrance sign for Sandy Hollow.

**SANDY HOLLOW UPDATE**

Mrs. Siemer said the new entrance sign for Sandy Hollow arrived today. Mr. Feld picked the sign up from the Township Building. As soon as there is a warm, dry day, RPOS will install the new sign and take down the old sign. RPOS plans to place the new sign on the left-hand side of the path so that it does not interfere with the vista at Sandy Hollow.

**BIRMINGHAM HILL UPDATE**

Mrs. Siemer said Clevens K9 installed the new dog waste station at Birmingham Hill on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, in October, three dead ash trees were removed and the stumps were ground down. Mr. Feld cleaned up the wood chips and placed them on the trail.

Mrs. Siemer sent Kevin Fryberger, Natural Resource Manager at the Brandywine Conservancy, the draft text for the proposed replacement entrance sign at Birmingham Hill. It was reviewed by the Brandywine Conservancy and they were fine with the text. RPOS hopes to replace the old entrance sign with a laminated sign.

Mrs. Worth contacted Mr. Feld about an area at Birmingham Hill that is eroding. RPOS can't put wood chips in that area because the chips would get washed into the Worth's driveway. Mr. Feld suggested that to send the water back onto the field, 6 inch by 6 inch

wood could be installed at angles. Mrs. Worth would also like to plant some trees, which is fine with RPOS members.

### **PAST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Even with the pandemic, RPOS was busy during 2020. At Birmingham Hill, the committee developed and installed trail markers, replaced about 20 rails and 6 posts, installed a dog waste station, met with Verne Weideman about an audio tour he developed, and completed a great deal of tree maintenance work.

At Sandy Hollow, the committee refurbished the cannon, rotated interpretive sign panels, repaired fencing, removed a line of fencing, designed a new entrance sign for Sandy Hollow, and like Birmingham Hill, completed a great deal of tree maintenance work.

### **REENACTMENT**

Mrs. Siemer said that Paul Loane and a few other reenactors attended via Zoom the October Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss the possibility of holding a reenactment at Sandy Hollow in 2022. The Board was interested in the idea. Although the reenactments are a great deal of work, RPOS members were enthusiastic about another reenactment, planned for September of 2022. Planning for the event will probably begin sometime in 2021.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Siemer said a Westtown Township resident inquired about having a lending library box at Sandy Hollow. Some of the neighboring Townships have a lending box. Mrs. Siemer said she sent the resident a link to the group that manages the library lending box in Kennett Township.

Mrs. Siemer said that RPOS is looking for two new members to fill the vacancies on RPOS. One vacancy is due to the passing of Jim Rosenthal. The second vacancy is left by Dave Shields, who is now on the Township's Planning Commission.

Mrs. Siemer thanked the RPOS members for their continued hard work maintaining both Sandy Hollow and Birmingham Hill. RPOS members agreed that 2020 was a good and productive year at both parks.

The next RPOS meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2021.

With no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jensen  
RPOS Secretary