

East Bradford Township Plum Run Task Force Meeting Minutes April 18, 2019

The 6th Meeting of the East Bradford Township Plum Run Task Force was held on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the McCardle Meeting Room of the Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, Chester County, PA 19380-1822.

Task Force members present:

Ms. Elizabeth Bertheaud (Historical Commission)
Mr. Ken Cavanaugh (Traffic Committee)
Ms. Kathryn Deaville (Planning Commission)
Ms. Sheila Fleming (Brandywine Conservancy)
Mr. Jim Haigney (Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission)
Mr. Mark W. Hoopes (Strode's Barn Study Committee)
P. Andrew Schaum, Esq. (Trails Committee)
Mr. Bob Struble (Brandywine Red Clay Alliance)
Ms. Jeannine Speirs (Chester County Planning Commission – Grant Management) [Non-Voting]

Task Force members absent:

Vincent M. Pompo, Esq. (Supervisor), Chairman
Mr. John Spangler (Parks & Recreation Board)

Staff/Professionals present:

Rich Phifer, Director of Property & Recreation, Task Force Main Contact
Tenley Adams, Property & Recreation Assistant, Task Force Secretary
Jim Laird, Laird Recreation & Land Planning, LLC., Project Manager

Others in attendance:

John Snook, Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES

Mr. Schaum motioned to accept the minutes from the January 16, 2019 meeting and Mr. Haigney seconded the motion which passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

REVIEW OF MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Phifer reviewed "Appendix D – Recommendations" of the Plum Run Master Plan with the Task Force. The following revisions were made by the Task Force:

Pertinent to Section 1: Strode's Barn Heritage Center Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Revise this recommendation to read, "Commission an architectural 'forensic' analysis of the Strode's Barn to guide the Township's approach to restoration/rehabilitation of the structure. The ultimate restoration/rehabilitation strategy should strive to conform to the appropriate Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties."

Recommendation 5: Revise the last sentence of this recommendation to read, "All surfaces, slopes and transitions on the Plum Run Trail and at the Strode's Barn Heritage Center should strive to be ADA compliant."

Recommendation 6: Revise the last sentence of this recommendation by adding, "and the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force" after "East Bradford Historical Commission".

Recommendation 7: Revise this recommendation to read, "Incorporate stormwater management and adequate drainage infrastructure into the design and construction of the Strode's Barn Heritage Center site in accordance with applicable BMPs."

Pertinent to Section 2: Recreation Recommendations

Recommendation 3: Revise this recommendation by replacing the word "jurisdiction" with "administration".

Pertinent to Section 3: Road and Vehicle Access Recommendations

Recommendation 2: Revise this recommendation to read, "East Bradford Township should prepare and submit to PennDOT a formal application for Request of Speed Limit Reduction on Birmingham and Lenape Roads within the Strode's Mill Historic District."

Recommendation 5: Revise the second sentence of this recommendation by deleting "to 35 MPH".

Pertinent to Section 4: Natural Resources Recommendations

Recommendation 6: Revise this recommendation by inserting the word “witness” in front of the word “tree” in the first sentence.

Recommendation 7: Revise this recommendation to read, “The Township should apply a ‘No Spray Zone’ policy along the road frontage of the Birmingham Tract of the Plum Run Preserve and should install protective fencing a distance away from the witness tree, which could provide a place to mount a ‘No Spray Zone’ sign.”

Pertinent to Section 5: Cultural Landscape & Historic Resources Recommendations

Recommendation 2: Revise this recommendation to read, “Include the Strode’s Barn spring house in the scope of work of the commissioned architectural ‘forensic’ analysis to determine the most appropriate rehabilitative treatment for the structure. The ultimate restoration/rehabilitation of the spring house should conform to the appropriate Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.”

Recommendation 4: Revise this recommendation by adding “and stabilize” after the word “preserve”.

Recommendation 5: Revise this recommendation by replacing the words “Strode Oak” with “witness”.

Recommendation 7: Revise the last section of this recommendation to read, “...and the context of the battle and preceding troop movements as they relate to the area surrounding the Strode’s Mill Historic District (reference Appendix A – List of Heritage Themes).”

REVIEW OF ANTICIPATED FUTURE EXPENSES

Mr. Phifer reviewed Section 8 of the draft Master Plan (Implementation and Action Plan) with the Task Force. He said that in addition to the Task Force’s review, the cost estimates will be reviewed by the Township Engineer for comment/input. Mr. Phifer also stated that the cost estimates are based on the prospect of the Township commissioning private contractors to perform all design, engineering and installation/construction, whereas certain items in the plan could realistically be performed by the Township’s Public Works department at a reduced cost.

FINAL TASK FORCE INPUT

Ms. Speirs will review and make additional comments pertaining to Sections 1 and 5 of the Draft Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

On motion of Ms. Bertheaud and seconded by Mr. Cavanaugh with all in favor, the Plum Run Task Force recommends the Final Draft Plan with the recommended edits be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and approval.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

The 3rd Public Meeting with Formal Presentation of the Plum Run Master Plan to the Board of Supervisors will take place on Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Tenley F. Adams
Secretary