

**East Bradford Township
Plum Run Task Force
Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2018**

The 2nd Meeting of the East Bradford Township Plum Run Task Force was held on August 29, 2018 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:

Vincent M. Pompo, Esq. (Supervisor), Chairman
Ms. Kathryn Deaville (Planning Commission)
Ms. Elizabeth Bertheaud (Historical Commission)
P. Andrew Schaum, Esq. (Trails Committee)
Mr. Ken Cavanaugh (Traffic Committee)
Mr. John Spangler (Parks & Recreation Board)
Mr. Bob Struble (Brandywine Red Clay Alliance)
Mr. Jim Haigney (Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission)
Mr. Mark W. Hoopes (Strode's Barn Study Committee)
Ms. Jeannine Speirs (Chester County Planning Commission – Grant Management) [Non-Voting]

Task Force members absent:

Ms. Sheila Fleming (Brandywine Conservancy)

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
Colleen Meiswich, A. D. Marble

Others in attendance:

Members of the "Friends of Strode's Barn"
3 people from the general public

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES

Mr. Struble motioned to approve the minutes of the July 31, 2018 meeting, Mr. Schaum seconded the motion with all in favor.

PLUM RUN BASE MAP REVIEW

Mr. Phifer reviewed the base map elements with the Task Force members. To make the map easier to understand, a transparent layer will be added to the properties surrounding the area under review. Mr. Struble commented that bog turtles have not been found in the area when the study was done for the Plum Run Stream Bank Restoration that he is working on in conjunction with the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance. Mr. Laird suggested that a second trail can be mapped as an alternate trail for the future.

Equestrian usage was suggested as a possible usage on the trail. This was discussed in depth and Mr. Spangler motioned that for development of the concept plans, the equine use will not be factored into the the design, but if the demand arises in the future and is deemed suitable, it could be revisited at that time. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cavanaugh with all in favor.

Parking was discussed, in addition to the parking that will be installed along Tigue Road at the meadow, it was suggested that parking could be at the pump station (which would be very limited); another location for public parking would be on the west side of Birmingham Road just south of Mr. Schaum's property. It was also suggested that just north of the Strode's Barn, entering from Lenape Road, there might be suitable access for the barn site in particular. Mr. Cavanaugh said he can check with PennDOT to see if this would be a possibility. It was also suggested that the parking area for the

Strode's Mill Gallery could be an option, but upgrades to the intersection of Birmingham Road and Lenape Road would have to be completed to meet the PennDOT standards for a pedestrian crossing.

The trail surface was discussed. That portion of the trail through the Tigue property that is part of the settlement agreement for the Darlington Ridge subdivision with Toll Brothers, will be 6 ft wide and paved. It was suggested that the section from the Tigue property to the Strode's Barn also be paved. The balance of the trail could be of a different surface type.

Trail Amenities, such as benches, trash cans and doggy bag stations should be added, with additional planting as necessary to enhance the trail. A port-a-potty should be considered.

The Task Force advocated for managing open fields as native meadowland, converting any field space currently used to till and grow crops.

Interpretive signage for along the trail and at the Strode's Barn was discussed and should include information on the natural resources, stream bank restoration, meadow management, historic dam, Strode's Barn, Strode's Mill Historic District, and the Battle of the Brandywine. The style should be consistent with what is being used in other municipalities for Battle interpretation. A courtyard area could be created at the Strode's Barn for some of the signage, but should be designed sensitively in order to minimize vandalism and provide visible exposure for safety.

The Strode's Barn exterior was discussed. Roofing options such as standing seam metal or shake shingle and exterior finish of stucco whitewash or pointed stone were considered options. Mr. Phifer passed around pictures of the barn that were taken in the late 1800's which show a stucco whitewash finish, but the roofing and first story exteriors are not easily discernible. The Task Force suggested that one product of the Master Plan could be to request and commission an architectural "forensic" investigation to help determine which portions of the original stone structure preceded others and what the original aesthetic treatment could have included.

On motion of Mr. Haigney and seconded by Mr. Schaum, with all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Upcoming Task Force meetings:

Task Force Meeting #3 – Thursday, October 11th 6 pm
1st Public Meeting – Tuesday, October 23rd – 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Task Force Meeting #4 – Thursday, November 15th – 6 pm
2nd Public Meeting – Thursday, December 13th – 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Task Force Meeting #5 – Wednesday, January 16th – 6 pm
3rd Public Meeting – TBD

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tenley F. Adams
Secretary