

Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission
Thursday, June 27, 2024 ID: 836 7016 6354 Passcode: 916348
Phone Call in number: 309-205-3325 (US)

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Rich Phifer (East Bradford Township, Chester County) - Chair
Sarah Mims (Pocopson Township, Chester County) - Vice Chair
John Haedrich (Kennett Township, Chester County) - Treasurer
Helene Badeau (Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County)
Kathleen Goodier (Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County)
Maree Forbes Gaughan (Advisor via zoom)
Jim Haigney (East Bradford Township, Chester County) - Secretary
Mary Fahner-Short (Pennsbury Township, Chester County)
Karen Marshall (Kennett Township, Chester County via zoom)
David Scranton (Pocopson Township, Chester County)

Absent:

Lois Saunders (Advisor)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rich Phifer, at 7:00 pm.

Announcements

The North American Land Trust has a pending acquisition of the Joseph Davis tract, which is located on the byway in Chadds Ford Township.

Routine Business

Review & Approval of May 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Kathleen Goodier made a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Haigney seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with minor revisions.

Treasurer's Report as of 06/24/2024

John Haedrich delivered the treasurer's report. May 21st through June 25th : All Township fees have arrived.

Previous checking balance as of 05/20/24: \$15,706.58

Checking Income items:

6/10-24 – Kennett Township 2024 Fee - \$600.00
6/24/24 – Chadds Ford Township – 2024 Fee - \$600.00
Net income - \$1200.00

Checking Expense items:

Net Items for the period 5/21/24 to 6/25/24: \$142.12 Truist Checking balance as of 06/25/24: \$16,764.46

Pending check payments:

NTC reimbursement - \$260.35

National Scenic Byway Foundation - \$150.00

Truist Previous credit card balance as of 04/22/24: (\$6.47)

Credit Card expense:

6/3/24 - Kennett Copy \$56.71 (Byway map poster)

6/3/24 – GoDaddy \$36.16 (BVNSB domain renewal)

Credit card balance as of 06/25/24: \$92.87 (to be paid 7/10/24)

Fulton Bank CDs as of 6/25/24:

CD #94802023 \$5,000.00 (6 month, 3%; matures 10/08/24)

CD #92572369 \$5,000.00 (6 month, 3%; matures 10/08/24)

CD #94801929 \$5,000.00 (6 month, 3%; matures 10/08/24)

CD #94801929 \$10,000.00 (12 month, 3.5%; matures 05/08/25)

Kathleen Goodier made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Mary Fahner-Short seconded the motion. All voted to approve the treasurer's report.

Old Business

Audit for 2023 – No new updates, but it is anticipated that further work will occur in July.

Inter-Governmental Cooperative Agreement – no new updates.

HTUGRR Website – Rich mentioned that the press release for the website was released and went very well. Rich is working with several publications with respect to additional articles. Maree has followed up with the artist who has proprietary rights to the HTUGRR Byway logo. The Commission must add some language to the image to list artist credit. Maree will be visiting all of the Tubman sites along the byway to photograph the waypoints.

BVSB website - Maree mentioned that they will be visiting sites along the byway to photograph images for preparation of website.

HTUGRR/CC250PA Partnership (Path to Freedom) – Rich mentioned that there were two meetings last month. Karen thoroughly enjoyed all of the information presented, and the amount was almost overwhelming. Karen mentioned that there was a bit of difficulty coming to consensus on some planning items. Kathleen added that she had the opportunity to meet with some key people involved in the aspects relating to HTB as well as Scenic Byway. The goal was to engage with the Townships to brainstorm future events relating to the CC250 Pa. Maree mentioned that overall, things went well despite the schedule being off track. Maree mentioned that people were enthusiastic about her presentation.

HTUGRR VPP Grant - John mentioned that a meeting occurred today from 4:40 to 6:00 pm with a very good turnout. They performed the process review with the county grant coordinator (Jeanine Speers) – as they move forward, adjustments will be made. John mentioned that some people were not entirely

familiar with the plan moving forward, and that more communication will occur as things move forward. John mentioned that there seems to be slight confusion over how to manage the byway entity (as opposed to a Township entity), but things for the most part have been ironed out. Maree is looking to make a feasible visitor experience with what fits on the trail. Karen mentioned that there was tremendous turnout and tremendous energy and interest in the overall project.

BVSB Chadds Ford Township Project – Kathleen mentioned that plans are still getting revised and resubmitted. PennDOT would prioritize the project once revisions are received.

AACHAF Grant Application for “The Pines” – Rich mentioned that they are anticipating a June notification but it has not been received at this time. John has not heard anything at this time. John has mentioned that he has been communicating with Kennett Township to coordinate efforts in the event that the grant is rewarded.

USDA Grant for Corridor Management Plan – Rich mentioned that the time frame for grant awards is in July and that no information has been received.

PennDOT Byway Program Meeting with State Officials - John and Maree reached out to Janet, and it may be worthwhile for the byway to reach out to the state tourism agencies to further possible funding efforts relating to signage. There may be a possibility for additional signage opportunities along the byway through the tourism agencies. Maree mentioned that the tourism budget has been significantly increased, and a new person is being brought in to spearhead the tourism bureau.

BVSB Corridor Signage – Subcommittee Report (If Any) – No new update at this time, but Rich will coordinate efforts for a meeting in July.

BVSBBC Dropbox Access – Rich mentioned that the dropbox is still under construction and wider access or the committee members is forthcoming.

BVSBBC Property Recognition Nomination: 272 Kennett Pike (Kennett Township) National Scenic Byway Foundation Membership – Rich attached an updated letter and asked the commission if there is satisfaction with the updated letter. John mentioned that we will need to hold off on the Tubman logo prior to adding that to the letterhead until we receive artist permission. The motion is tabled to next month. Sara Mims mentioned that 1415 Lenape Road (across from Lenape Pizza) is a worthy future nomination. The current owners have put a lot of work into the property. Rich mentioned that we can add that property to the list of formal nominations for the commission to vote on in the coming months.

National Scenic Byway membership – John has not heard back from the Byway foundation on the check status. Maree will follow up with the agency.

New Business

No new business.

Chairman Comment:

Rich suggested that a meeting be held on Thursday December 5th at 7 pm for the November and December months due to holiday conflicts with the regularly scheduled meeting dates.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjournment

John Haedrich made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sarah Mims seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Next meeting – July 25, 2024