

**Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission**  
**Thursday, April 24, 2025, 7:00 PM (both In-person at CFT and ZOOM)**  
**ZOOM Meeting ID: 857 2265 0304 Passcode: 230057**

**ZOOM Link:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85722650304?pwd=w4R78ER8NcZhM6Ep3RVLdV7twFdwqr.1>**

**Phone Call in number: 309-205-3325 (US) AGENDA**

**Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:**

Rich Phifer (East Bradford Township, Chester County) - Chair  
Jim Haigney (East Bradford Township, Chester County) - Secretary  
Kathleen Goodier (Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County)  
David Scranton (Pocopson Township, Chester County) – Vice Chair  
John Haedrich (Kennett Township, Chester County) – Treasurer  
Tina Bennett (Kennett Township, Chester County)  
Helene Badeau (Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County)  
Sarah Mims (Pocopson Township, Chester County)  
Maree Forbes Gaughan (Advisor, National Travel Center, via Zoom)  
Crystal Crampton (KURC)  
Debbie Burston (KURC)

**Absent:**

Lois Saunders (Advisor)

**Call to Order**

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

**Announcements and Public Comment**

No announcements.

**Routine Business**

**Review & Approval of March 27, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion by John Haedrich, seconded by Kathleen Goodier, the minutes of the March 27, 2025 meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report for the period 3/26/2025 to 4/21/25**

**TRUIST CHECKING**

Previous checking balance 3/26/25: \$7,208.57  
Pennsbury Annual Fee – 4/3/25; \$600.00  
Chadds Ford Annual Fee – 4/3/25; \$600.00  
Net income for the period: \$1,200.00

Checking Expense items:

Net expense items for the period: None

Truist Checking balance as of 4/21/25: \$8,408.57

Pending check payments: NONE

**TRUIST CREDIT CARD**

Credit card balance as of 4/21/2025: NONE

**Fulton Bank CDs**

CD #94802023 \$5,000.00 (6 month, 3%; matures 05/13/25) Value: \$5,140.81 (4/21/25)  
CD #94806203 \$10,000.00 (12 month, 3.5%; matures 05/08/25) Value: \$10,326.43 (4/21/25)

**Fulton Bank MMF (Money Market Account ...0877)**

3/26/25 – Ending Balance from Prior Report - \$12,509.62

03/31/25 – Interest Credit - \$6.03

04/21/25 – Ending Balance - \$12,515.65

Upon motion by Kathleen Goodier, seconded by David Scranton, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

**Old Business**

**2024 Audit**

Rich Phifer stated that David Scranton and Tina Bennett are coordinating efforts on the audit. David anticipates that the audit will be finished by June. There are no new updates.

**Inter-Governmental Cooperative Agreement**

Rich has stated that he is waiting for the proposal from Trident Insurance. John mentioned that the 2025 budget was approved and distributed to member townships with no comments received back.

**HTUGRR**

- a. CC250 Partnership (Path to Freedom) – There are no updates.
- b. HTUGRR Interpretive Trail (VPP Grant) – John mentioned that he requested and had an interim briefing meeting with Chester County Planning Commission staff, seeking guidance on how to ensure that project deliverables receive CCPC approval and maintain compliance with the VPP grant contract. John will work with the National Travel Center to adhere to a strict interpretation of the contract.

**Chadds Ford Township Walkable Chadds Ford**

The approved plans have been sent out to bid and responses are forthcoming.

**BVSB KennettTownship Project "The Pines"**

- a. Planning Study (AACHAF Grant Awarded) – John mentioned that he received informal notification that the interim report has been approved – this allows for 50 percent (\$25,000) of the funding to be released. This allows Maree to continue work on the project. Maree mentioned that engagement with the neighbors is being pursued.
- b. DCED LSA Statewide Grant Application (Pending) – No new updates.
- c. PHMC Grant Application (Pending) – John mentioned that additional information was requested, and the grant is being processed.
- d. AACHAF Grant Application (Pending) - No new updates.

**BVSB Corridor Signage**

Kathleen Goodier mentioned that signage coordination is ongoing with Delaware as well as with PennDOT, and there are no new updates at this time.

**National Scenic Byway Foundation**

Rich mentioned that we need to reach out to the NSBF with respect to their inaccurate mapping. Coordination with PennDOT is critical in getting the NSBF to update their mapping. John suggested that we reach out to PennDOT to follow up with movement on this front.

**Tribute to Mary Fahner-Short**

Rich mentioned that he reached out to Pennsbury Township regarding a tree or plaque. Rich has a spec on a cast aluminum plaque, and the cost would be around \$200. He reached out to Joe Short, Mary's husband, and Mr. Short approved of the tribute idea and mentioned that Mary was fond of river birch trees. Rich suggested a 50/50 cost share with Joe. Rich will follow up with a resolution at next month's meeting.

### **New Business**

The Commissioners confirmed logistics for the May 22 meeting at Pocopson Township and preceding tour of Barnard Station – the Commission will be meeting at 6:00 pm at Barnard Station followed by the regular meeting at the Pocopson Township building at 7:00 pm.

### **BVNSB Website**

The Commission created a list of website page revisions. Rich Phifer compiled a list of itineraries relating to the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway in Pennsylvania and asked how to incorporate that list into the website. Maree stated that it is better not to organize itineraries based on township identifications. Most visitors will not be familiar with the local townships. Maree mentioned that we need to come up with a more seamless integration of the waypoints.

Maree asked if we have received information/input from each of the member townships. Rich stated that West Chester Borough and Kennett Square Borough are the two largest entities that offer commercial establishments, too numerous for the Byway website to promote directly. Maree suggested that ideally, the amount of restaurants should be kept to a minimum, and that shopping should be limited to the arts. The Commissioners suggested that we link to the Borough websites to allow for connectivity to the bulk of the restaurants near the byway. Maree suggested that the list of shops and restaurants be submitted in the next week, then Maree will incorporate those limited choices into the website.

Rich asked if the website could spotlight parks or other recreational opportunities. Maree stated that it would be possible to spotlight those opportunities. Rich stated that he can furnish a list.

Rich asked if the 3-day itinerary could be added to the page. Maree agreed. Rich stated that he would follow up with getting more information to Maree to populate the tour page of the website. Rich suggested that rather than having a key attraction be the Cox House (which does not allow public access), perhaps we can link to the Tubman Byway as a placeholder destination while we work towards bringing other key attractions online (the Pines, etc.).

Rich requested that on the main page of the website, attractions such the Hagley Museum, Winterthur, etc., and other buttons/itineraries be switched to Pennsylvania Byway images as opposed to Delaware attractions.

### **Adjournment**

Kathleen made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Rich seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

### **Next meeting – May 22, 2025**

Note: The May 22, 2025, meeting of the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission will take place in person and via Zoom at the Pocopson Township municipal building, located at 664 S. Wawaset Road, West Chester, PA 19382, to include a tour of the Barnard Station house with the assistance of Don McKay. The Barnard Station tour will not be included in the Zoom coverage. The Barnard Station tour begins at 6:00 pm, with the regular meeting following at 7:00 pm.