

Honey Brook Township and Borough Multi Municipal Comprehensive Plan Update

Task Force Meeting #2 NOTES

August 6th, 2025, at 6:30PM-8PM (Honey Brook Township Office and Zoom)

<https://brandywine-org.zoom.us/j/82321535770?pwd=1l8URzmylUlbl11Obc4eXeLvERtKJL.1>

AGENDA

6:30-6:35pm Welcome and Call to Order

Gary McEwen, Task Force Chair

Meeting Overview

Sarah Sharp, Brandywine Conservancy

6:35-6:40pm Public Comment (see Township guidelines for public comment)

** When called, provide your name and address for the record. After this, you have three (3) minutes to share your comments regarding any matter related to the Comprehensive Plan Update. There will be additional opportunity for public comment at the end of the meeting.*

- Valerie Schultz commented that when interviewing stakeholders it might be important to include state police; she asked what from the previous comprehensive plan was accomplished and does the Task Force provide a dashboard for the public with these accomplishments; commented that it would be good to know that the comp plan was useful
 - SSharp: Township & Borough (T&B) to keep track of accomplishments; Will be addressing what's been accomplished specific to the topics presented tonight; Can provide a status of the last plan with permission of T&B

6:40-6:50pm Community Visioning Event

Sarah Sharp, Brandywine Conservancy

S Sharp provided an overview of the Community Visioning options and asked the Task Force for input

- S Longenecker suggested placing a poster at the Family Fun Friday announcing the survey and public meeting date
- S Cooper - Concert in borough park; is it a static poster or will people be interacting/talking
 - SS it would depend on if it's the alternative for the visioning where we need to be there physically; we could just do the poster like Fun Fridays
 - Halvorson - would need to check with Parks and Rec

- Halvorson - Harmony day is busy but might not get a lot of interaction
- Cooper - Is there a good turnout at open houses?
 - S Sharp depends on the location and community but it can get hard to have people turn out
- Hammell -- stick with open house and supplement with the posters at the events
 - A lot of agreement from TF members
- Cooper -- Township building is fine, no place in the borough that could host
- McEwen - -could we incorporate into a TF Meeting
 - S Sharp no scheduled meeting for September, could piggyback on the October meeting, sometimes occurs after a planning commission meeting but that's usual for one municipality
 - McEwen - could do it before a planning commission meeting or supervisors meeting starts
 - DiGiacomo -- Township meetings start at 7PM
 - Hammell -- Supervisors get the most attendance
 - 2nd Wednesday - would be September 10th
 - Knies -- Will there be flyers for advertising?
 - Halvorsen -- Flyers as well to pass around before council meetings; Borough schedule is open on September 10th
 - S Sharp: Can also have a QR code
 - McEwen -- how would this be advertised?
 - S Sharp on the website, two weeks in advance
 - Obenski -- no legal requirements so we can advertise on website

6:50-7:05pm Community Survey Review and Comments

Sarah Sharp, Brandywine Conservancy

- Hammell: will we be able to separate out between H&T residents? It's a joint plan but we function separately; if they don't live in the T or B should they be filling out the survey; if they don't live here but own land or have a business they should be included -- non-resident property owner or business owner options
 - S Sharp: first question should help identify and we can separate out the results, we allow that as an option for anyone who may own a business or be employed here to have an opinion but this can be separated out; add landowner/business owner to first question
- McEwen -- for questions like 3 where there are multiple choices, can this be prioritized? Which is most important to least important.
 - S Sharp: we can rephrase to say rank
- #4 -- Hammell -- what do you mean by school costs, does this mean taxes?
 - S Sharp: Yes, and can be elaborated on like private school; would it be helpful to have school taxes be its own or put in with taxes
 - Longenecker -- no, could mean extracurricular activity costs
 - McEwen -- availability/proximity to private schools should be included
- Hammell -- does senior housing mean 55+ community or retirement home; maybe it should say 55+; what is an employment center seems redundant
 - S Sharp: can be removed

- Longenecker -- could mean a place people seek employment
 - S Sharp: we can rephrase it or provide it as an example
- #7 - Halvorsen - state road maintenance
 - Longenecker -- ranked question?
 - S Sharp: Yes, how many? Rank top three?
 - McEwen - managing growth does that mean maintaining a sustainable tax base; losing a major employer/making sure they stay
 - S Sharp: Could add lack of employment opportunities
 - Rob Daniels: lack of local employment opportunities
 - Longenecker -- sees this question being a lot of 'others'
- Halvorsen - combine questions 8&9
 - McEwen -- or have one for the borough and one for the township
- #10: Halvorsen -- have a borough oriented facilities/services
 - S Sharp: online survey can do if this then get these questions; could have two paper surveys
 - Hammell -- have two separate paper surveys
 - TF agrees on having two surveys; one for Township and one for Borough
- Halvorsen -- borough residents are very straightforward in what they want
- Cooper -- should we provide input for questions that we can remove for the borough
 - Will coordinate with other borough TF members and email S Sharp
- #11: Hammell -- not a great question, do they know how much funding is going somewhere now
- #12 - Hammell: why do we want to know if people are going elsewhere for rec?
 - S Sharp: good to know when residents are leaving the township to seek rec opportunities
- Halvorsen -- cut 12 and 13; our parks are used a lot
 - S Sharp: alternative park and rec questions?
 - Cooper: is there anything you want in the park that we don't have?
 - Longenecker: condense 12 - do you visit your local park? And list Other for outside parks; consolidate #13
 - Passive recreation or sports fields
 - S Sharp: Specificity helps get to what people really want
 - Hammell - likes the specificity
 - S Sharp leave the list for township
- #14 - vehicle, horse and buggy, other
 - Cooper -- don't think they have the ability for bike lanes or multiuse trails for walking
- #16 - Convert roads? What does this mean?
 - McEwen -- doesn't feel this question is relevant
 - Cooper - might be a good question to remove
- #18 - Hammell -- feels like we're singling them out; what difference does it make?
 - Halvorsen -- take it out
 - DiGiacomo - may help in dissecting the rest of their answers but not sure its helpful now
- #22 Hammell -- does it really matter
 - SS: can be used to identify if people are responding
 - Cooper - would be interesting for the township, very large area

- Needles - keep the question
 - SS: helps tell if the data is skewed or one area responds more
- #23 - Hammell -- email or paper newsletter?
 - Cooper -- Borough does a newsletter
 - S Sharp: Township Newsletter can be a recommendation made in the comp plan
- S Sharp: Deadline for edits by Monday, August 11
- Hammell - willing to deliver and pick up surveys for residents
 - Will provide language that says if you'd like a paper copy delivered, call the township

7:05-7:20pm Demographic Summary

Sarah Sharp, Brandywine Conservancy

- Cooper - Break down borough and township resident population count -- the borough is much smaller area wise than the township
- Total households is similar to the population -- needs to be reviewed

7:20-7:40pm Preserving Agricultural Landscapes, Open Space, Recreation and Protecting Natural Resources: Inventories, Mapping and Recommendations

Sarah Sharp, Brandywine Conservancy

- Halvorsen has not heard about an issue with wells
 - Obenski hasn't either

7:40-7:50pm Questions/Concerns/ Outstanding Items

Sarah Sharp, Brandywine Conservancy

- S Sharp question for borough -- the yes or no on the implementation recs is that completed/not completed recommendations or priorities/not priorities moving forward?
 - Halvorsen to follow up and provide answer

7:50-8:00pm Public Comment (see Township guidelines for public comment)

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- No public comment

- October 9th is the next TF meeting
- September 10th Community Visioning

Attendance:

- Steve Longenecker
- Gary McEwen
- E Hammell
- M Needles
- DiGiacomo
- G Knies
- S Cooper
- M Halvorsen
- W Obenski

**Next Meeting – Community Survey and Community Visioning Session - September 10 @5
TF Meeting #3 - October 9th @ 6:30**

Project Website - <https://www.brandywine.org/conservancy/honey-brook-township-and-borough-multi-municipal-comprehensive-plan-update>