

Hamiltonban Township Recreation & Parks Commission

23 Carrolls Tract Road, Fairfield, PA 17320

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2009

Members Present: Chairman Pamela Wiehagen, Vice-Chairman Cathy Jo Lehmer, Juanita Larmer, and Secretary Doreen Premo.

Others Present: Supervisors Harry Rood and Coleen Reamer, and David Deardorff of Fairfield.

Chairman Wiehagen called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Approval of Agenda: Cathy Jo Lehmer motioned to approve the agenda, Juanita Larmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes: Juanita Larmer motioned to approve the minutes from August 12, 2009 and the September 9, 2009 No Quorum note for the Minutes Book. Cathy Jo Lehmer seconded, and the motion carried.

Old Business: We decided to work on the Official Map next month as our only major activity at that time. We discussed that this is the most important task at hand for now. We discussed various areas to include on the map as possibilities for connecting corridors from one preserved area to another. Supervisor Reamer stated that once we have completed our work, the Map would become a pictorial ordinance that will be filed with Adams County. At that time, our Township would be eligible for DCNR money to fulfill our goals.

New Business: The members discussed our Township Budget allotment from this year, and the projected amount for next year. The supervisors told us that this year's unused monies would be placed in a reserve fund for the RPC, and that our next year's projected budgeted monies would be \$500. We will use our funds to purchase materials for our proposed community recreational activities, and possibly for a magazine subscription sometime.

We next discussed our ideas for providing the children with recreational opportunities. We briefly revisited the Easter Egg Hunt idea firming up two possible dates of March 27 or April 4 and where we could hold the hunt. Juanita proposed her idea of a Pumpkin Painting Harvest party for the children of the Township. Suggestions were for us to plant pumpkins in the Township lot behind Liberty Worship Center, harvest them ourselves or let the children pick out their own and sell them at a set price per size for the children to paint. We would supply paints, snacks, and other supplies, the children would need to bring a smock or other clothing to cover their good clothes, and we would ask LWC to allow us to use their community room if they were agreeable. Other ideas were for a hayride, costumes, a

cutoff age of 12, and if we couldn't feasibly tend to the growing of the pumpkins, one of the local farmers might agree to grow them for us for a minimal charge.

We next returned to the Official Map and the topic of the Tapeworm Railroad recreational area including public comment in this discussion. We discussed easements along this area with the view to making connections among the Tapeworm area, the different area farms that have been placed into land preservation, and the existing areas of Strawberry Hill and Camp Eder. Dave Deardorff brought in some magazines from an organization called From Rails to Trails for us to look at, and he discussed the ideas that possibly there could be interest generated amongst the local farmers by offering them the ability to sell produce, etc. to hikers along the trail, and that we could somehow connect the trail to the wineries in the area providing hikers with this as an inducement to stop at those establishments increasing local support for our project. Harry Rood showed us GIS maps that highlight the current location of the CSX Railroad line and the former Tapeworm line as it converges and divides off the CSX line. He also showed us a picture of the former Mariah Furnace as it appeared just prior to being demolished. We lamented the loss of this historic landmark, and discussed that there is still a portion of the Tapeworm viaduct structure located along Mt. Hope Rd. by the Fournier property that may be in the Township right-of-way, and that we could place an historic easement on that arch to protect and repair it before that is lost forever. We will e-mail the county as to the location of that arch – whether on private property or the Township right-of-way.

Public Comment: See above.

Other: Next RPC meeting is November 11, 2009 at 7:30 pm at 23 Carrolls Tract Road, Fairfield, PA 17320.

Adjourn: Cathy Jo Lehmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Doreen Premo seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Doreen Premo, Secretary
Hamiltonban Township Recreation and Parks Commission