

Hamiltonban Township, Adams County, PA
Recreation and Parks Commission
2008 Year-end Report

This Commission has been in existence for only two years, and during this time we have maintained a small, solid core of volunteers. However, there have also been many changes in the membership so that our progress has been somewhat hampered. We have attempted to lay the groundwork for the time when this Commission becomes a viable and necessary arm of the local government in providing recreational opportunities to the township's population.

The members of this Commission for 2008 were Pamela Wiehagen (chairman), Cathy Jo Lehmer (vice-chairman), Doreen Premo (secretary), and Juanita Larmer. Juanita has been an excellent addition with her knowledge of the citizens and the terrain. Supervisors Coleen Reamer, and Robert Gordon, have served as liaisons from the Board of Supervisors. Pastor Robert Costello has been a non-voting representative from Fairfield Borough. The Annual Reorganization Meeting to elect officers for 2009 has not yet occurred due to lack of a quorum for one reason or another. Therefore, we have continued with the previously elected officers of Pamela Wiehagen (chairman), Cathy Jo Lehmer (vice-chairman), and Doreen Premo (secretary). We will hold the reorganization at the first fully attended meeting in 2009, and inform the Board of Supervisors once that has been accomplished.

One accomplishment of the RPC this year has been to produce the Commission's first Year-end Report for the March meeting of the Board of Supervisors per the Second Class Township Code 2204 – Section C. We also arranged to send the RPC Minutes (including all previous minutes) to the township webmaster for inclusion on the township's webpage. We welcomed Police Officer Juanita Larmer as a new member of the Recreation and Parks Commission and thanked her for volunteering her time and services. We continued to work on the RPC Guidelines including the Member Pledge of Commitment, Code of Ethics and Commission Bylaws. Mr. David Deardorff of Fairfield, PA, was a guest speaker talking with us about the Tapeworm Railroad in Adams County. We began work on an Official Map to highlight areas for possible future parkland easements in the township.

Future Plans

We hope to develop a small, passive recreation park on the township lot in the BB Section. This will only be undertaken if a majority of those citizens are in agreement. We will be conducting a paper survey first, and then go door to door to speak with the people in this neighborhood. We plan to develop a nature trail with perhaps two graveled parking spaces at a minimal cost to the township. This will be under study for most of the coming year, and will be presented to the Planning Commission/BOS for approval.