

LANCASTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Speedwell Forge County Park Advisory Council

Meeting of September 15, 2010

7 PM, Penn Township Municipal Building

APPROVED

Board Members Present

Jay George
Eileen Lieberman
Pete Parsil
Sally Vanderslice
David Wood
Dawn Darlington

Board Members Not Present

Others Present

Lancaster County Department of Parks & Recreation:

Paul Weiss, Parks & Rec. Administrator and Officiator

Clyde McMillan-Gamber, Naturalist

Deb Werner, CPS, Senior Secretary/Public Relations Specialist was absent from the meeting

The meeting began at 7:00 PM.

Old Business:

Sally Vanderslice moved to approve the April 21, 2010 Advisory Council meeting minutes as submitted. Dave Wood seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business:

- Dawn Darlington is filling the Advisory Council position vacated by Rob Gabriel. Dawn was introduced and welcomed.
- Paul Weiss announced that the terms of the following three members of the Advisory Council expire at the end of 2010: Helen Farrington, Jay George and David Wood. As they were present at the meeting, David and Helen were asked if they would serve another term and both agreed to do so. Paul indicated that he would contact Jay at a later time regarding serving for another term.
- Paul provided the following updates on Speedwell Forge County Park:
 - John Groff, a private citizen, has volunteered to clean up along the roads and trails around and through the Park.
 - As we approach hunting season, Paul reviewed the hunting boundaries for the Park. Hunting is allowed in all areas of the Park except for a safety zone that extends around the southern boundary of the farm field and out to Speedwell Forge Road in the lower portion of the Park.
 - Paul is going to look into enrolling Speedwell Forge Park in the PA Game Commission's Cooperative Farm-Game program. Participation in this program would provide additional Game Commission enforcement in the Park as well as additional signage and tree seedlings for the Park should the Department desire.
 - New 4" x 4" signs have been obtained by the Department to post the boundaries of its outlying County Parks. The Ranger division will be posting these signs with Speedwell Forge as the third park on the list to be posted.

- The following updates on other Park activities was provided:
 - The Department's 2011 proposed budget has been submitted and has not changed dramatically from the approved 2010 budget. The County Commissioners will not be raising taxes in 2011 and are implementing an early retirement incentive program to close the budget gap.
 - Todd Hawn was promoted from within to fill the Department's vacant Chief Ranger position. Todd can be reached at 278-6270.
 - The Department is working to fill its full complement of 6 Rangers and some re-assignment of duties is expected. However, Chad Shaneyfelt will still be assigned as the primary Ranger for Speedwell Forge Park.
 - Construction of the 1.3-mile Conestoga Greenway Trail around the outer bank of the Conestoga River at Sunnyside Peninsula has been completed. While the trail is currently open for use, an official ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on October 18.
 - A PA-DCNR grant has been approved for the construction of a pedestrian bridge over the Chickies Creek in Chickies Rock County Park. The bridge is a key component to completing the 14-mile Northwest River Trail from Columbia to Conoy. Design for the bridge will be completed in 2011 with construction estimated for the summer of 2012.
- Other items of note were raised by Council Members
 - Helen Farrington reported that she has noticed target shooting occurring in the northern section of Speedwell Forge Park. Paul will notify the Rangers to be vigilant during their patrols.
 - There has been no additional word regarding the downgrading of the Hammer Creek by Heidelberg Township in Lebanon County.
- Speedwell Forge Advisory Council meetings for 2011 will be held on April 20 and September 21.

Pete Parsil moved to adjourn the meeting; Helen Farrington seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul D. Weiss