

**LANCASTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION**  
**Speedwell Forge County Park Advisory Council**  
**Meeting of April 22, 2009**  
**7PM, Penn Township Municipal Building**

Board Members Present:

Helen Farrington  
Jay George  
Eileen Lieberman  
Pete Parsil  
Sally Vanderslice  
David Wood

Board Members Not Present:

Robert Gabriel

Others Present:

None

Lancaster County Department of Parks & Recreation: Jim Hackett, Executive Director and Officiator, Clyde McMillan-Gamber, Naturalist, and Deb Werner CPS, Senior Secretary/Public Relations Specialist.

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- The meeting began at 7:10 p.m., and nearly every member was present.

Old Business

- A motion was made by David Wood to approve the minutes of September 17, 2008; Jay George seconded.

New Business

- Jim is holding mutual aid meetings with municipal police agencies. The police agencies will assist park rangers when needed. Park rangers are presently updating their OC spray and firearms training.
- The Lancaster County Conservancy is looking to purchase 800 acres adjacent to Money Rocks County Park. This may result in joint land management between the Park Department and the Conservancy. Park naturalists are also working on joint environmental education programs with the Conservancy.
- Jim met the director of the Lancaster County Library at their administrative office off Greenfield Road to maintain a positive working relationship and to understand the library duties required of park personnel at the Park Department's Shuts Environmental Library.
- Park fees will increase slightly within a few years.
- The public is invited to an annual Arbor Day Ceremony, Friday, April 24 at 9 a.m., when we remember the first county park ranger, William M. Dull. The event will be held in the Williamson Area of Lancaster County Central Park.
- The Department has released a new Conewago Recreation Trail Brochure. Deb will send brochures to the Lancaster County Conservancy at Sally's request.
- Volunteers are needed for a tree planting event in Central Park on Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Volunteers will receive Tree Tenders' Training in the morning, and lunch will be provided. In the afternoon, volunteers will assist park staff and DCNR arborists in the planting of

seedlings in the Rockford Road Floodplain along the Conestoga River. Persons interested in volunteering should call the Park Office. Jim Hackett noted that this planting would complete one item that was included in the Central/Buchmiller Parks' Master Plan.

- The Department strives to maintain continuity in its brochures, programming announcements and through its print, radio and television contacts. The executive director and recreation coordinator will participate in a taping of *Your Local Government* at Blue Ridge Cable TV 11 in the near future. Information offered will include 2008 accomplishments, 2009 plans, and news about recreation and environmental education opportunities.
- Naturalist Clyde McMillan-Gamber mentioned that he recycles outdated newsletters by handing them out to students at several high school career days. As newsletter editor, Deb Werner monitors outdated newsletter quantities and adjusts print quantities accordingly to save money and to eliminate waste.
- Clyde spoke about how to protecting tree saplings from deer damage. A discussion continued about the many different types of wildflowers that are present in the woodlands of Speedwell Forge County Park. Skunk cabbage, trout lily and spring beauty bulbs are present; Clyde added that the latter were actually eaten by Native Americans and by wild turkey. Native Americans also used the sap from bloodroot for dyes and paints. Reptiles found at Speedwell include wood frogs, American toads, painted turtles, snakes and wood turtles.
- Jim added that a 14-16 car parking lot would be installed in the near future at the county's Ted Parker III Nature Area in Drumore Township.
- The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 7 p.m., at the Penn Township Municipal Building.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. after a motion by Jay George; Eileen Lieberman seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deborah H. Werner CPS