

March 2012 Hiram Village

Communicator

"All the News that fits, we print"

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

This month Mrs. Evelyn Bixler was appointed to replace Frank Hemphill to serve a six (6) year term on the Commission. The Commission met on Election Day evening to review a proposal by T-Mobile to place additional antennas on the existing Cell tower, located on Hiram College Property on Winrock Rd. extension. The application was approved on the condition the performance bond approved by solicitor Tom Reitz is deposited and application fee in the amount of \$1,500 is paid. Commission member Chis Cobb's term is expiring in April and if anyone in the community is interested please contact the Mayor, or anyone in Hiram Village government.

ADDITIONS TO COMMUNITY AND GRANT REQUESTS:

As for the grant of \$85,912 for the purchase of 5.1 acres commonly known as the old Hiram School property the Village is still awaiting further instructions from ODNR as how to proceed.

The north - south extension of Winrock Rd. has been approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Village is awaiting the appropriate plat maps, surveys and legislation.

On January 26, 2012 the grant to build Hiram's *new* sidewalks along the State Routes was approved by AMATS Policy Committee in the amount of \$270,000 referenced in Council's Resolution 2011-28.

Also on January 26, 2012 the Village was informed by AMATS that the grant for the Hiram Hike and Bike Trail has been approved for more than \$800,000. This project will connect the Village and Hiram College Campus to the Biological Field Station and then to the Headwaters Trail.

The Hiram Community Trust Grant Applications are due April 20, 2012 the total this year is \$40,000.

OLD FIREHOUSE AND LIGHT PLANT:

Both the old firehouse and Light Plant buildings are currently being utilized to park village equipment and vehicles. Late last year College President Tom

Chema expressed interest in trading college properties with the village. An appraisal of both the light plant and observatory was received on February 10, 2012, which was shared and discussed at the Finance Committee meeting on February 28, 2012. It appears those appraisals were incomplete, the Light Plant appraisal did not include the value of the structure, nor did it even approach the Auditor's valuation. Before any undertaking of negotiations the fair market value of the structure should be included.

SOLID WASTE MASTER CONTRACT:

In an effort to achieve a seamless transition into the solid waste pick up with Kimble Refuse, one hauler for the Village and Township, any questions you may have can be addressed by Don Johnson of Kimble Refuse at (330) 260-7902.

CAC of Portage County Tax Clinic Schedule:

If you need help filing their Federal, State and local tax returns, assistance is available to residents of Hiram at no cost; for an appointment call (330) 297-1456, Ext 264 and ask for Judy C. When possible, returns are filed electronically, with refunds deposited to tax payer checking accounts.

HIRAM BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Do you appreciate the hanging flower baskets and potted flowers at the Village Park and Cemetery and other beautiful gardens throughout the village? These are maintained by a group of volunteers who enjoy the beauty of flowers and want to give back to our community. We are looking for volunteers to give little time to develop projects, water plants and work to keep our community beautiful. It's an enjoyable way to meet other community members too. Interested? Contact Matt Sorrick 330-569-6003 or email (sorrickmw@hiram.edu) for more information.