

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
NOVEMBER 13, 2001

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on November 13, 2001, at the Park District office, Chardon, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. President Robert McCullough was in the chair. Board members present were Betty Cope and Mark Rzeszotarski. Employees present were Tom Curtin, Keith McClintock, Shawn Harry, Sylvia Neptune and Eileen Smith. Guests present were Edna Davis, Christopher Knopf, David Ondrey, Bill Tilton and Wolfe Tone.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to accept the agenda as amended for the meeting. Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Miss Cope moved that the minutes of October 9, 2001, be approved as presented. Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

Miss Cope moved that the minutes of October 18, 2001, be approved as presented. Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE MONTH ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2001

GENERAL FUND

BALANCE OCTOBER 1, 2001

886,585.39

EXPENDITURES

182,232.48

Personnel	118,934.43
Medicare	1,428.75
Hospitalization/Dental -September	16,663.85
PBX	185.06
Vouchers - October/November	45,020.39

RECEIPTS

489,850.45

Fees:

Rookery Heat fees	80.00
Camping	30.00
Canoe Participants	10.00

Out of County School Programs	60.00	
Greens Workshop	523.00	
Holly Days Happenings Table Fees	215.00	
Rental Properties		
- McKinnon- Swine Creek house-Oct.	350.00	
- Scott - Krehlik House - Oct.	350.00	
- Kolar - Burton Wetlands House Oct.	350.00	
- McClintock - Hyde House Oct.	350.00	
Sales: Gift Cart	512.95	
Citation Disbursement	22.00	
Refund from Bonds- for Admin & Rangers Alvord Ins.	561.75	
Donation: 40th Anniv – Waste Management	200.00	
Donation: Memory of Alice Ferris - Franc Family	50.00	
Local Government Funds	6,007.98	
2nd Half Personal Property Taxes	476,615.33	
State Reimbursement Real Estate	1,049.15	
Refund from class action lawsuit- Ameritech	15.00	
Interest earned	2,498.29	
BALANCE OCTOBER 31, 2001		1,194,203.36

CONSTRUCTION FUND

BALANCE OCTOBER 1, 2001 **5,235,385.12**

EXPENDITURES **152,671.10**

Vouchers -October/November 152,671.10

RECEIPTS **145,223.14**

Interest Earned 18,166.41

Donations:

TWWNC -Betty Schweitzer 100.00

TWWNC-C Freer- Red Raider Fund 50.00

TWWNC-Smith/Fox - Red Raider Fund 200.00

TWWNC - W Hayden Thompson 200.00

Friends Membership – Ludick 35.00

Wetland Reserve Funds-for Beaver Creek & Big Creek 126,356.00

Royalties: Oxford Oil Co 115.73

BALANCE OCTOBER 31, 2001 **5,227,937.16**

PARK DEBT FUND

BALANCE OCTOBER 1, 2001 **688,248.23**

EXPENDITURES **0.00**

RECEIPTS **-2,503.41**

Interest Earned 2,089.78

September Pay-In correction (per Auditor's correction) -4,593.19

BALANCE OCTOBER 31, 2001 **685,744.82**

VOUCHER RESOLUTION NO. 21-01

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved the adoption of the voucher resolution, a copy of which is on file in the Park District office, so marked Resolution No. 21-01.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Tom Curtin shared with the Board correspondence he received from the Burton Public Library. The letter complimented the Park District on the 40th Anniversary video and magazine.

Mr. McCullough shared with the Board two recent experiences he had with the public. During a hike at The Rookery, Mr. and Mrs. McCullough were approached by a couple complimenting “Mr. and Mrs. Park” on the accolades of The Rookery. Mr. McCullough also received compliments on how great the parks look when he was at the voting polls on Election Day.

THE WEST WOODS

Campaign Update

Sylvia Neptune gave the Board an update on the campaign total. To date, the total is over \$697,000.00. Eighty-four pavers have been sold. Mrs. Neptune reported that as a result of the newsletter, contributions were received in the amount of \$1,500.00. Sylvia Neptune informed the Board that a press release is scheduled before the holidays suggesting the purchasing of a “paver” as a holiday gift. There will also be information at the Holly Days Craft Show concerning the purchasing of a paver.

Grand Opening Update

Tom Curtin discussed with the Board concerning the auction the Foundation is planning on running in conjunction with the grand opening of The West Woods Nature Center. Miss Cope reported that she met with Isabelle Boland and Linda Henry concerning the auction. This unique auction is in the planning stages. It was suggested that the Park contribute featured hikes, birding and butterfly events that would be hosted by our staff and Board members.

Exhibit Update

The Director shared with the Board new pictures of the exhibitry proposed for The West Woods Nature Center. The Board would then have an opportunity to review and comment on the exhibitry prior to the special Board Meeting scheduled for November 20th. Miss Cope would like to see the color scheme of the exhibits toned down. She would like to color scheme to be more natureful. Dr. Rzeszotarski agreed suggesting the use of standard warm earth tones. Mr. McCullough questioned the age group the exhibitry was targeted for. Tom Curtin responded that the exhibitry has been designed for the text to reach a wide range of people. Mr. McCullough questioned the overall appeal to everyone and the longevity of the exhibitry. Mr. Curtin responded that the exhibits are removable and can be changed around. Miss Cope questioned the expense of the exhibitry, stating she would rather stagger the exhibits with a lesser number of exhibits in order to maintain a higher lever of interactivity. She stressed the importance of keeping the exhibits eye-catching and exciting.

Trail Signs

Shawn Harry, Geauga Park District’s sign technician, showed the Board suggested signage for The West Woods. Mr. Harry showed the Board different materials that could be used for signs. Shawn Harry explained to the Board that the wood signs were difficult to keep up with. Shawn Harry felt he could get more information and graphics on Plexiglas signs. Tom Curtin added that the Plexiglas glass signs would be more versatile. There was further discussion from the Board as to the use of Plexiglas, the cost difference and the need for more trail signs. Mr. Curtin responded

that directional signs are needed for the Ansel's Cave trail and suggested experimenting with the Plexiglas signs. Mr. McCullough suggested adding the address to the sign for The West Woods. Mr. McCullough added that there should be a sign indicating the longitude and latitude, as well as the elevation. This sign could be located at or near the building. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested that this sign be placed with the GPS coordinates and be large enough to be seen from an automobile.

CEI CONTRACT

Mr. Curtin informed the Board that the transformer at The West Woods has to be moved. It was located too close to the driveway. The cost of moving the transformer will be Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred Forty Seven Dollars and Seventy-Six Cents (\$16,647.76).

Miss Cope moved to approve the CEI contract to move the transformer at The West Woods. Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

The West Woods

Geothermal Wells -- Tom Curtin updated the Board on the construction of the Nature Center. A number of wells have been drilled. The drilling of these water wells is associated with the geothermal well field. Tom Curtin reported to the Board that there was a minor setback when the crew was backfilling next to the building. The walls of the Nature Center were beginning to bow in. It is the intention of the contractor to reinforce the walls, adding heavier rebar and filling in with cement.

Shingles -- Tom Curtin showed pictures to the Board of the type of shingles that we would like to use on the Nature Center. The Director also showed the Board pictures of the construction of the support building. Mr. McCullough asked about the rain runoff. Keith McClintock responded that there would be down spouts. The rain runoff would then go into a barrel. It is our intention to use the support building as a case study to see advantages and disadvantages.

Green Roof Update – Tom Curtin reported to the Board that we are moving ahead with the green roof on the support building. In order for the green roof to thrive, it may be necessary to plant non-native species on the roof. The planting is scheduled for April 2002. Mr. Curtin would like the Board to approve the planting of non-native species and presented to the Board a suggested list of sedum.

Suggest List

- Sedum acre (alien, but not invasive)
- Sedum album (alien, but not invasive)
- Sedum ternatum (native to Ohio)
- Campanula rotundifolia
- Phlox subulata
- Phlox pilosa
- Carex annectens
- Carex rosea
- Hieracium pilosella
- Dianthus deitoides

Anthemis tinctoria
Tradescantia bracteata
Chrysanthemum leucanthemum
Allium schoenprasm

Miss Cope moved to approve the planting of non-native species on the green roof of The West Woods Nature Center in order for the green roof to thrive.
Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

J.G. JOHNSON PAY REQUEST

Tom Curtin requested from the Board approval to make a payment to J.G. Johnson Construction Company for the construction of The West Woods Nature Center for work that has been completed in the amount of One Hundred Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars (\$119,692.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve a payment of One Hundred Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars (\$119,692.00) to J.G. Johnson Construction Company for the construction of The West Woods Nature Center for work that has been completed.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

J.G. JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY – CHANGE ORDER NO. 2

The Director presented to the Board Change Order No. 2 from J.G. Johnson Construction Company in the amount of Sixty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Three Dollars (\$62,873.00). This Change Order reflects the addition of the green roof, the parking area undercuts for fatty clay soils, windows in the basement, bathroom fixtures, deleting of the baby changing area and an elevator safety device should a power outage occur.

Miss Cope moved to approve Change Order No. 2 from J.G. Johnson Construction Company in the amount of Sixty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Three Dollars (\$62,873.00).

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

FROHING MEADOWS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Curtin forwarded to the Board a copy of the Frohring Meadows Management Plan giving them an opportunity to review the Management Plan for any comments or questions. Mr. Curtin asked the Board to approve the Frohring Meadows Management Plan.

Mr. McCullough moved to approve the Frohring Meadows Management Plan.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

LEGAL COUNSEL CONTRACT INCREASE

Tom Curtin advised the Board that the contract for legal services would have to be increased. Mr. Curtin recommended increasing the contract by Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to cover legal services until the end of the year.

Mr. McCullough moved to increase the contract for Thrasher, Dinsmore and Dolan by Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to cover legal services until the end of the year.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

REAPPOINTMENT OF FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Mr. Curtin brought before the Board for review and consideration for re-appointment as trustees to the Geauga Park District Foundation the names of Michael Colagiovanni, Michael Fath and Robert Davis for a second three-year term effective January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2004.

Mr. McCullough moved to accept the re-appointment as trustees to the Geauga Park District Foundation the names of Michael Colagiovanni, Michael Fath and Robert Davis for a second three-year term from January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2004.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

APPOINTMENT OF NEW FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Tom Curtin brought before the Board for review and consideration as trustees to the Geauga Park District Foundation the names of Keith Tompkins and Don Hornack. If approved, their term would take effect on January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2004.

Mr. McCullough moved to accept the appointment as trustees to the Geauga Park District Foundation the names of Keith Tompkins and Don Hornack to serve a three-year term beginning January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2004.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

PARK UPDATES

Springbrook Management Plan – Mr. Curtin reported that the Springbrook Management Plan is currently being reviewed by ODNR. It is anticipated that the management plan will be finished by December.

Bike Trail – Tom Curtin reported to the Board that we are looking at construction for the bike trail to begin next spring.

North Maintenance Building – The Director informed the Board that we are in the process of putting together a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the addition to the North Maintenance building. This RFP will also include the Ranger garage.

FELKIN MORTGAGE

The Director informed the Board of the Park District's intention to pay off the mortgage loan on the Felkin property. Mr. Curtin advised the Board that the total amount to pay off the mortgage loan, including any closing costs, would be Twenty Thousand Two Hundred Eight-One Dollars and Ninety-Nine Cents (\$20,281.99).

Mr. McCullough moved the Director to pay off the mortgage loan, including closing costs, on the Felkin property in the amount of Twenty Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and Ninety-Nine Cents (\$20,281.99).

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

REGIONAL OPEN SPACE

Dr. Rzeszotarski asked Mr. Curtin if there was any follow up to the Regional Open Space Meeting. Mr. Curtin responded that there was a meeting several weeks ago. An outline was developed for a grant proposal for funding a position(s). This grant proposal will not be ready until the first of next year. Park directors are expected to talk again.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-01—

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

The Director asked the Board to authorize an amount of money to be transferred from the General Fund to the Park Debt Fund equal to the difference between our account balance and what it would take to pay off the Park debt, not to exceed Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00).

Mr. McCullough authorized the Director to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Park Debt Fund in an amount equal to the difference between our account balance and what it would take to pay off the Park debt, not to exceed Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

BEST WILDLIFE PRESERVE – OUTDOOR EXHIBITS

Shawn Harry, Sign Technician, presented to the Board a model of a suggested idea on how to approach an outdoor display. Mr. Harry suggested displaying artwork at

Best Wildlife Preserve's waterfowl blind. It was suggested using the waterfowl artwork of Bill Kuhlman, along with corresponding verbiage. This would also be a good teaching tool. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned the longevity of the display. Shawn Harry responded that these displays could hold up well. Dr. Rzeszotarski stated this concept would also be good at Burton Wetlands. Mr. Harry stated that nothing would go out on the display until spring, targeting the spring migration. The Board agreed to proceed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 5:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisitions and personnel.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

LAND ACQUISITION

Bass Lake

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved for the Director to enter into an agreement with the Trust for Public Land to negotiate the purchase of Bass Lake in Munson Township.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Abstain

Bike Path

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to enter into a contract with Lawyers Title for the purpose of land acquisitions along the bike path in the amount of Two Hundred and Seventy-Six Thousand Five Hundred and Forty-Two Dollars and Forty-One Cents (\$276,542.41).

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Departmental reports from the Supervisors were submitted for the month of October to the Director and a summary sheet was forwarded to the Board in their mailing packet prior to the Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE

The rules of the Park Board were complied with by sending notice pursuant to the rules adopted by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Curtin, Director

Robert McCullough, President

file: Board 11-13-01