

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2002

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on October 8, 2002, 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 Betty Cope and Mark Rzeszotarski were present. Employees present were: Tom Curtin, Keith McClintock, Paige Hosier and Eileen Smith. Guests present were: Nancy Hershberger, Ken and Joan Kirk and Clayton Kovats.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Miss Cope moved to accept the minutes of September 10, 2002, as amended.
Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
MONTH ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2002

GENERAL FUND		
BALANCE SEPT 1, 2002		3,968,028.85
EXPENDITURES		2,762,051.98
Personnel	143,171.30	
Medicare	1,764.90	
Dental /Hospitalization- September	19,579.21	
PBX	185.06	
Vouchers	128,220.51	
Transfer to Q41 Fund	2,469,131.00	
RECEIPTS		54,226.60
Fees:		
Shelter	40.00	
Rookery Heat	20.00	
Canoe and Kayak	100.00	
Wreath Workshop (Cancelled)	53.00	
Holly Days Table Fees	510.00	
Rental Properties-September		
- McKinnon- Swine Creek house	350.00	
- Scott - Krehlik House	350.00	
- Kolar - Burton Wetlands House	350.00	

- McClintock - Hyde House	350.00	
Sales: Gift Cart	188.09	
Citation Disbursement	133.00	
Plan fees for TWW Landscaping	75.00	
2nd Half Manufactured Home Tax	7,864.57	
2nd Half State Reimbursement Real Estate Tax	34,895.00	
Local Government Funds	6,081.73	
Interest earned	2,866.21	
BALANCE SEPT 30, 2002		1,260,203.47

CONSTRUCTION FUND
BALANCE SEPT 1, 2002 **3,737,507.62**
EXPENDITURES **563,679.37**

Vouchers	563,679.37	
RECEIPTS		2,498,164.79
Interest Earned	6,293.43	
Royalties: Oxford Oil	552.28	
Royalties: Cedar Valley Energy-Hehmeyer	408.83	
Paskevich Refund for TWW Contract	21,114.00	
Donation: Cleveland Fnd - Affelder Trust	415.25	
Donation: Robert & Mary McCullough - TWWNC	250.00	
Transfer from S05 Fund	2,469,131.00	
BALANCE SEPT 30, 2002		5,671,993.04

VOUCHER RESOLUTION NO. 20-02

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved the adoption of the voucher resolution as amended, a copy of which is on file in the Park District office, so marked Resolution No. 20-02.

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Ken and Joan Kirk approached the Board reaffirming their interest in the Farley property. Mrs. Kirk stated that she and her husband sent a letter to Geauga Park District stating their interest in the Farley property. Mr. and Mrs. Kirk would be interested in the property as previously presented to be auctioned or if the Park decided to only auction off the four-acre parcel containing the house and outbuildings. Dr. Rzeszotarski responded to Mr. and Mrs. Kirk that they are considering options.

Mr. Clayton Kovats had several questions for the Director concerning The Maple Highlands Trail and the exact route of the bike trail near the power lines in Chardon Township. Mr. Curtin made reference to the map of the bike trail, which was on display for reference purposes. Mr. Curtin showed Mr. Kovats the route the bike trail would be taking near the power lines and indicated to Mr. Kovats that the area he was questioning is a spur, which will lead to an area by Ravenna Road that will be used as a parking area.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Curtin read excerpts from a letter he received from the Russell Park Commission thanking Geauga Park District for allowing Jay Abercrombie, Biologist, to assist the Russell Park Commission in reviewing some land.

Mr. McCullough shared with the Board a conversation he had with a resident concerning the October 5, 2002, fundraiser event held at The West Woods Nature Center. The resident complimented Mr. McCullough on the event being first rate and how wonderful the new facility is.

THE WEST WOODS

Construction Update

Tom Curtin indicated to the Board that there is a punch list of items that needs to be completed. The project foreman would be pulling off the job at Noon on October 9, 2002. J. G. Johnson Construction Company's presence will no longer be on the site. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned when the "Fruits of the Labor" event would take place. Paige Hosier, Marketing Manager, indicated that it is scheduled for November 10, 2002. Details will follow.

MID-COM ELECTRONICS—CHANGE ORDER NO. 1

Mr. Curtin presented to the Board Mid-Com Electronics Change Order No. 1 representing labor and materials to install double-relay smoke detectors at the elevator lobbies and rewire through the elevator control panels to confirm with the elevator inspector's direction. This work is necessary in order to comply with the final elevator inspection and permit. The Change Order is in the amount of Six Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$680.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to approve Mid-Com Electronics' Change Order No. 1 in the amount of Six Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$680.00) as described above.

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

MID-COM ELECTRONICS—CHANGE ORDER NO. 2

Mr. Curtin presented to the Board Mid-Com Electronics Change Order No. 2 representing the additional fire-security components be added to the system to conform with the 2002 Ohio codes and ADA revised requirements. The Russell Fire Department required these components for the Fire Marshall prior to the issuance of the final occupancy permit. The total contract increase for this Change Order will be Seven Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars and Twelve Cents (\$7,477.12).

Mr. McCullough moved to approve Mid-Com Electronics' Change Order No. 2 in the amount of Seven Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars and Twelve Cents (\$7,477.12) as referred to above.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

J. G. JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY—CHANGE ORDER NO. 16

Mr. Curtin presented to the Board J. G. Johnson Construction Company's Change Order No. 16 in the amount of Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars (\$14,189.00) representing the installation of the emergency overflow relief for the sanitary system, additional ballasters to the wrought iron fence, electrical receptable for the aquarium chiller, electrical modifications to the

nature shop and cubicles, and condition of wood wainscoating and finishing details to the indoor water feature.

Mr. McCullough moved to approve J. G. Johnson Construction Company's Change Order No. 16 in the amount of Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Eight-Nine Dollars (\$14,189.00) as referred to above.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

LANDSCAPE CONTRACT UPDATE

At the September 10, 2002, Board meeting the Board made a motion that pursuant to the provisions in the bid specifications for the landscape contract, J. G. Johnson Construction Company was the lowest and best bid. Because all bids came in over the 10% allowance, Geauga Park District fairly deleted non-essential items from all three bids on legal counsel's advice and re-examined the bids to see who was the lowest and best bid. Mr. Curtin informed the Board that when Geauga Park District evaluated the various bids after deleting certain items, J. G. Johnson Construction Company was the best and lowest bid. The revised bid was One Hundred Five Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$105,864.75).

PRESENTATION OF POSTER

Paige Hosier presented to each of the Board members on behalf of the "Passage to The West Woods" fundraiser a signed and numbered poster of artist Carol Prior's rendition of Ansel's Cave.

THE MAPLE HIGHLANDS TRAIL

Construction Update – North

Mr. Curtin updated the Board on the progress of the northern portion of The Maple Highlands Trail. The Director reported that the northern portion of the project is 51% complete. The contractor has more improvements in the area of erosion control to come into compliance with local and state erosion control standards. Geauga Park District is waiting for approval from ODOT on a pavement mixture. It is a denser mix and will be able to be installed in one coat. It is anticipated that ODOT will approve this asphalt mixture and placement procedure. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned the timetable for approval. Mr. Curtin reported that Tim Kallay, Contract and Planning Administrator, has been in contact with Gary Benesh from ODOT. Mr. Benesh has indicated that we should receive approval within the next day or two. Once approved, the project should be able to move along quickly.

Change Order No. 1

Mr. Curtin shared that there will be a change order that will designate that the contractor delete the use of Calcium Chloride from the contract. This change order will reflect that there will be no change in price. We will shift this line item and redirect it toward the use of additional water by the contractor for dust control and base compaction.

BIG CREEK MAINTENANCE SHOP AND RANGER GARAGE

At the September Board meeting, Mr. Curtin presented to the Board bids for the Big Creek maintenance shop and Ranger garage. These bids ranged from \$478,000.00 to \$493,000.00. Mr. Curtin indicated that we have been in the process of checking the references for the two lowest bidders:

Lakeland Management Systems	--	\$478,399.00
JTO, Inc.	--	\$482,000.00

Mr. Curtin indicated to the Board that reference checks have been completed and that the Director recommended to the Board that they approve Lakeland Management Systems.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve the bid from Lakeland Management Systems in the amount of Four Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand, Three Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$478,399.00).

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

BINOCULAR PROGRAM

Tom Curtin reported to the Board that Geauga Park District had written to several companies requesting product information regarding binoculars. Mr. Curtin indicated that we received a response from Bushnell Corporation, who provided us with not only information but with a donation of six binoculars ranging in price of \$75 to \$500. After the committee has had an opportunity to evaluate these binoculars, we will then turn these binoculars over to the Naturalist and Ranger Departments for various programs. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned whether we would be looking into a grant to fund this program. Mr. Curtin replied that it is our intention to look into grant opportunities, as we will be looking at acquiring 500 binoculars this year and over 1,000 in the future (if we go countywide). Dr. Rzeszotarski further questioned as to how we would be evaluating these binoculars. Mr. Curtin indicated that a committee would be evaluating them for birding and astronomy. They will be looking at brightness, sharpness and clarity. Dr. Rzeszotarski added that one of the considerations for butterflies is the closeness of focus. Ideally for butterflies the closeness is six to eight feet.

BIOHABITATS, INCORPORATED – SILVER CREEK PROPOSAL

Keith McClintock reported to the Board that Geauga Park District has reviewed the first conceptual drawing for the Silver Creek restoration project from Biohabitats, Inc. Mr. McClintock further reported that there would be a meeting October 9, 2002, at 9:30 a.m. at The West Woods Nature Center. Teresa Hudson, Paul Anderson, Kyle Dryfus-Wells, Carmella Shale, Greg Studen, Jay Abercrombie and Keith McClintock would in attendance at this meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to have our questions and concerns answered/addressed by Biohabitats, Incorporated. Biohabitats, Incorporated will also be giving a presentation of the conceptual plans they have provided. Mr. McClintock extended the invitation to the Board members to attend this informational meeting.

PARK UPDATES

The Maple Highlands Trail – South – We are moving ahead on the surveys from the City of Chardon south to Headwaters. Geauga Park District is also continuing to close on the railroad right-of-way properties, which have been signed by the Board.

DEDICATIONS

Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned Sunset Overlook Trail and if we were going to hold a dedication for Chuck Miller. Mr. Curtin responded that Sylvia Neptune, Foundation Coordinator, is looking at the 17th to the 25th of this month to schedule a dedication. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned the events scheduled for October 13, 2002, regarding the Affelder family. Mr. Curtin responded that the Board members are welcome to attend the Affelder family gathering. Mr. McCullough and Dr. Rzeszotarski indicated that they would be at the gathering.

Dr. Rzeszotarski also inquired of the Director the dedication of the Trout Lily Trail. Mr. Curtin responded that it would be on October 12, 2002, at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. Neptune is working on the details of the dedication.

Mr. Curtin added that the annual Friends' meeting and hike would also take place at The West Woods on October 12, 2002.

EMPLOYEE INSURANCE FOR 2003

Robin Pilarczyk, HR and Volunteer Coordinator, presented to the Board information she had received from the County Commissioners regarding employee insurance plans for 2003. Mrs. Pilarczyk indicated that after 9-11 of last year, employers were made aware that there would be an insurance increase. United Healthcare came in at an increase of 53%. The County Commissioners decided to stay with QualChoice, offering to employees five different plans. Mrs. Pilarczyk informed the Board that Geauga Park District is hosting an open enrollment meeting at Big Creek on Friday, October 25, 2002. She invited the Board to attend this informational meeting. Dr. Rzeszotarski inquired as to whether Geauga Park District would have to follow the co-pay scale set by the County Commissioners. After discussion, the Board will review the insurance guidelines and the co-pay schedule and will determine what amount Park District employees will have to pay.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-02

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR JUDGE AND MRS. BAKER

Mr. Curtin presented to the Board a Certificate of Appreciation for Judge Charles P. Baker, Jr. and Marie Baker.

Mr. McCullough moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Judge Charles P. Baker, Jr. and Marie Baker have served selflessly as trustees of the Bessie Benner Metzenbaum Foundation for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, their work has benefited hundreds of children and adults through the Geauga County Board of Mental Retardation and the Metzenbaum School; and

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District and the citizens of Geauga County have benefited from the Metzenbaum Foundation's donation of land, which became the Bessie Benner Metzenbaum Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Geauga Park District's Board of Park Commissioners express their sincere thanks and appreciation to Judge Charles P. Baker, Jr. and Marie Baker for their service through the Bessie Benner Metzenbaum Foundation.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. 22-02

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION – J. G. JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Mr. Curtin presented to the Board a Certificate of Appreciation for J. G. Johnson Construction Company. J. G. Johnson Construction Company served as the general contractor for The West Woods Nature Center.

Miss Cope moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, J. G. Johnson Construction Company served as the general contractor for the construction of The West Woods Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, J. G. Johnson Construction Company has been extremely professional and responsive in their dealings with Geauga Park District; and

WHEREAS, J. G. Johnson Construction Company has demonstrated quality workmanship, attention to detail, and timeliness in completion of The West Woods Nature Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Geauga Park District's Board of Commissioners express their sincere thanks and appreciation to J. G. Johnson Construction Company for their service to the people of Geauga County and Geauga Park District.

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 4:29 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:

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

LAND ACQUISITION

Munson Township

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to authorize the Director to proceed with negotiations regarding property in Munson Township.

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

RE-AUCTION FARLEY PROPERTY

After Board discussion, the Board will be re-auctioning the Farley property. The Board decided to auction off the house and four acres of land. Mr. Curtin will determine the value of the house and four-acre parcel based on the information obtained from the August 2002, auction.

Mr. McCullough made a motion for the Director to proceed with making arrangements to re-auction the Farley property.

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

EMPLOYEE INSURANCE

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve the following insurance co-pay schedule based on the Board's budgeting an increase in insurance premiums of 35% as recommended by the County Commissioners last fall:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Plan</u>	<u>Option</u>	<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Geauga County's Monthly Premium</u>	<u>Geauga Park District's Monthly Premium</u>
PPO	10080	Renewal	Single	\$315.16	\$20.00
PPO	10080	Renewal	Family	\$778.40	\$40.00
PPO	9726-M	Option 4	Single	\$256.08	\$10.00
PPO	9726-M	Option 4	Family	\$632.49	\$20.00
PPO	8656-M1	Option 14c	Single	\$228.39	\$-0-
PPO	8656-M1	Option 14c	Family	\$564.08	\$-0-
HMO	1001-M	Option 8	Single	\$270.79	\$15.00
HMO	1001-M	Option 8	Family	\$668.81	\$30.00
HMO	3001-M1	Option 10b	Single	\$228.39	\$-0-
HMO	3001-M1	Option 10b	Family	\$564.08	\$-0-
Vision	10080	Renewal	Single	\$ 2.05	\$-0-
Vision	10080	Renewal	Family	\$ 4.67	\$-0-
Vision	Only	Renewal	Single	\$ 2.05	\$-0-
Vision	Only	Renewal	Family	\$ 4.67	\$-0-
Vision	Options 2-5 above		Single	\$ 1.60	\$-0-
Vision	Options 2-5 above		Family	\$ 3.65	\$-0-

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

RUSSELL PARK COMMISSION'S REQUEST

Roy E. Podojil, Geauga Park District Foundation's representative of the Voluntary Advisory Committee and Chairman of the Russell Park Commission, requested the use of The West Woods Nature Center to conduct their Park Commission's meeting. Dr. Rzeszotarski expressed concerns with custodial coverage. Mr. Curtin replied that a special use permit would have to be written with attached guidelines. This special use permit will be issued for a one-year period on an experimental basis.

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Mr. Curtin brought to the Board's attention a pending lawsuit against Five Rivers MetroParks, which challenges the constitutionality of sovereign immunity for park agencies. The case in summary involved Five Rivers MetroParks' livestock escaping their fenced-in pen. Metroparks Serving Summit County has agreed to initiate support from other park districts. They are preparing an Amicus brief (Friend of the Court) and are seeking our support in order to protect our resources and programs. The anticipated expense for preparing and filing this brief is between Five to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$5,000-\$10,000).

Miss Cope made a motion to financially participate, not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), in Metroparks Serving Summit County's filing of an Amicus brief in support of Five Rivers MetroParks as stated above.

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

Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 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