

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
OCTOBER 9, 2001

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on October 9, 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, Dan Best, Paige Hosier, Sylvia Neptune, Teresa Runion and Eileen Smith. Guest present was James Adams.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. McCullough 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 September 11, 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	Abstain
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE MONTH ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2001**

GENERAL FUND

BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2001 **2,327,666.60**

EXPENDITURES **1,458,804.38**

Personnel	123,316.19
Medicare	1,492.28
Hospitalization/Dental -August	16,663.85
PBX	185.06
PERS- 2nd Quarter	53,059.95
Transfer to Q41 - Construction Fund	1,232,800.00
Vouchers -September/October	31,287.05

RECEIPTS **17,723.17**

Fees:

Shelters	40.00
Camping	20.00
Kayak/ Canoe Participants	40.00
Ohio Peace Offices Benevolent Assoc- copy fees	22.90
Clay Leaf Windchimes	156.00
Holly Days Happenings Table Fees	555.00
Rental Properties	
- McKinnon- Swine Creek house-Sept.	350.00

- Scott - Krehlik House - Sept.	350.00	
- Kolar - Burton Wetlands House Sept.	350.00	
- McClintock - Hyde House Sept.	350.00	
Second Half Manufactured Home Tax	8,311.64	
Sales: Gift Cart	220.39	
Art Commission - Clair Snyder	41.80	
Donation: 40th Anniversary Picnics Communications Service	75.00	
Local Government Funds	5,203.60	
Interest earned	1,636.84	
BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2001		886,585.39

CONSTRUCTION FUND

BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2001		5,137,181.45
EXPENDITURES		1,179,480.84

Vouchers -July/August	1,179,480.84	
RECEIPTS		1,277,684.51

Interest Earned	19,025.67	
Donations:		
TWWNC -Affelder Fund thru Cleve. Fnd	340.75	
TWWNC-Middlefield Plastics -via Mike Fath consultation	50.00	
TWWNC-Malcolm Mann Inc. -via Mike Fath consultation	100.00	
Music St pledge- B.Steffee	25,000.00	
Transfer from S05- General Fund	1,232,800.00	
Royalties: Cedar Valley Energy - Hehmeyer Property	86.97	
Royalties: Oxford Oil Co	281.12	
BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2001		5,235,385.12

PARK DEBT FUND

BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2001		682,259.41
EXPENDITURES		0.00

RECEIPTS		5,988.82
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Interest Earned	5,988.82	
BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2001		688,248.23

VOUCHER RESOLUTION NO. 19-01

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. 19-01.

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Tom Curtin shared with the Board correspondence he received from the Geauga Arts Network Group. This group has been meeting monthly in the Cherry Room. This letter thanked Geauga Park District for allowing them to use a meeting room. They hope to continue using our facility to conduct their meetings.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

James Adams, Executive Director for the Geauga Community Board of Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Addition presented to the Board and staff information concerning their issue that the Board of Mental Health will have on the ballot on November 6th.

THE WEST WOODS

Campaign Update

Sylvia Neptune updated the Board on the campaign total. To date, the total is approximately \$670,000.00. Seventy-six pavers have been sold. Contributions in honor of Bill Ginn have totaled \$37,800.00. Mrs. Neptune informed the Board that a press release is scheduled to be issued before Thanksgiving promoting the purchase of pavers as holiday gifts. An insert will also be placed in the all-county issue of The Treeline Telegraph.

Construction Update

Tom Curtin informed the Board that The West Woods Nature Center is approximately 13% complete. The steel floor and supports in both the main and support buildings are being installed. The crew plans on backfilling the foundation in about a week or so. The Director informed the Board that there has been a change in the window configuration in the Naturalist area, adding a fourth window, which is required by the building code. The transformer will have to be moved approximately 70 feet up the road. Mr. Curtin further informed the Board that Tim Kallay is working with the contractor for the green roof. Where appropriate, change orders will be prepared. Mr. McCullough questioned the time line for the frame for the roof. Originally, it was scheduled for October. Tom Curtin replied that he did not think that time line would be met.

Signage

Tom Curtin showed the Board pictures of the signage for the Ansel's Cave sign and the Bill Ginn sign. The Director indicated that we want to make sure that we have continuity of color and style of the signs. Dr. Rzeszotarski stated that we should standardize the Geauga Park District colors. There was discussion as to whether we should use the brown sign with yellow printing at the entrance of The West Woods or change to green signs. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested staying with the greens and browns. Dr. Rzeszotarski further questioned the longevity of the signs. Mr. Curtin indicated that if we want to change the signs, new signs would have to be made. Keith McClintock added that every several years the signs are repainted.

Grand Opening Committee Report

Teresa Runion updated the Board on the public opening for The West Woods, tentatively scheduled for October 19, 2002. She indicated that this committee is working on themes. To date, only two suggestions have been made: "A New Landmark to Celebrate Geauga's Natural Landscape" or "Gauga Rocks and Flows". There was discussion concerning the suggested themes. Miss Cope indicated that "Gauga Rocks and Flows" is catchy, but does not suggest majesty and dignity. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested the theme "Gauga's Natural Landscape".

Teresa Runion asked for input from the Board on the promotional poster -- a recognizable animal theme and a geographical theme. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested using the carrier pigeon. Mr. McCullough would like the poster to be a handout for teaching purposes. Mrs. Runion asked the Board if they would like to see sketches. The Board indicated they would.

Sylvia Neptune updated the Board on the fundraiser event tentatively scheduled for October 5, 2002. She is working with Isabelle Boland and Linda Henry on the theme and the style of this event. Mrs. Neptune asked for the Board's input on the "style" of the event: sit-down dinner in the all-purpose room or food stations located throughout the building. The Board indicated that the "food stations" would allow people to move from room to room. There was also discussion on the serving of wine and/or beer. The Board felt comfortable with wine being served.

Mrs. Neptune brought up for discussion the possibility of a “live” auction. Miss Cope questioned Mrs. Neptune as to how much we expect to raise and if we were going to charge to come to this fundraiser. Mrs. Neptune responded that the decision as to whether or not we would be charging people to come to this fundraiser event would depend on whether or not we were able to get a sponsor. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned whether we were going to invite benefactors who have already given a considerable amount of money. Miss Cope suggested that their tickets be stamped “complimentary”.

Tom Curtin shared with the Board that Tom Salo from our Maintenance Department is building a canoe and giving it to the Foundation. Mr. Curtin suggested that this canoe could be auctioned off that evening. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested also auctioning woodcarvings and paintings.

Exhibit Concepts Inc.

Dan Best presented to the Board cost information that he received from Exhibit Concepts Inc. This new cost figure was substantially higher than the bid quote. The original bid quote was \$350,000.00. Exhibit Concepts Inc. is estimating the cost for designing and building the exhibits that more than doubled the original bid quote. Dan Best further explained that some of the reasons for the higher cost are due to a higher level of interaction. Exhibit Concepts Inc. also underestimated the audio/visual contract and some of the graphics were changed to two-dimensional. The Board felt that these new figures were high. Miss Cope suggested going out for bid again. Dan Best expressed concern that the exhibitry would not be done in time for the grand opening. Miss Cope indicated that the exhibits should be exciting and appealing. Mr. McCullough indicated that everything was nebulous and that there was no assurance that these figures would be the final figures. Dan Best will take the Board’s concerns back to Exhibit Concepts Inc.

MEYER CENTER UPDATES

Tom Curtin shared with the Board that Tim Kallay and Jerry Holzheimer have been working on closing out the Meyer Center project. Al Stowe does not want to compromise. We are trying to work with Al Stowe’s lawyer to clarify the remaining issues. There are certain things that Al Stowe needs to take care of. The rest the Park staff will take care of. Tom Curtin indicated that we are at a stalemate.

REGIONAL OPEN SPACE

Tom Curtin reminded the Board that on Friday, October 12, 2001, there will be a day-long Regional Open Space workshop at Lakeland Community College, followed by an evening dinner at Manakiki Golf Course Clubhouse. The Director asked the Board if they were planning to attend the dinner meeting. The Board was in agreement and will be attending the Regional Open Space dinner meeting.

LAKE COUNTY BIKE PATH

Mr. McCullough asked about Lake Metroparks’ grand opening for their bike path. Mr. Curtin responded that invitations are in the mail to the Board concerning this grand opening. The grand opening will be on October 28, 2001, at 2:00 p.m. This ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at the intersection of Routes 608 and 84, across from the Dinner Bell Restaurant in Painesville.

PARK UPDATES

The Rookery

Mr. Curtin refreshed the Board’s memory concerning the boundary dispute with a neighbor to The Rookery. A survey was done. We will be placing boundary markers on the boundary line. The only encroachment on the parkland was mowing. A letter has been sent to the homeowner to cease mowing this area.

Maple Highlands Trail

The Director reported that our final design plans would be going to ODOT this month. Bidding is scheduled to take place this fall with construction next spring.

RESCIND RESOLUTION #13-95

Mr. Curtin informed the Board that upon reviewing the Park Rangers’ training record, Rodney Fyfe and Rod Sharpnack have not had any additional training as part-time rangers. It is the intention of the Park District to have all rangers up to date on training and increase the part-time ranger patrol experience. Rodney Fyfe has decided not to participate in this additional training and patrolling.

Miss Cope made a motion to rescind Resolution #13-95 pertaining to Rodney Fyfe’s commission as a Park Ranger.

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

CONTRACT INCREASE – POSTAL

Mr. Curtin presented to the Board a contract increase for postage in the amount of \$1,500.00. This increase will cover the cost of the bulk mailing of the all-county newsletter. This increase is also based on the increase cost of postage, including bulk mailing, and the addition of 1,000 names on the mailing list over the last year.

Miss Cope made a motion to increase the contract for postage in the amount of \$1,500.00.

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

RESOLUTION #20-01

COASTAL MANAGEMENT RESTORATION GRANT

Keith McClintock presented to the Board a Resolution of Authorization. Mr. McClintock is working on the Coastal Management Restoration Grant, which is due October 19, 2001. We are applying for this grant for Silver Creek. One of the criteria of this grant is to provide a Resolution of Authorization.

Mr. McCullough moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Real Estate and Land Management, administers financial assistance for coastal management purposes, through the Ohio Coastal Management Program, and

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District desires financial assistance under the Ohio-Great Lakes Coastal Restoration Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by Geauga Park District as follows:

1. That Geauga Park District approves filing an application for Ohio-Great Lakes Coastal Restoration Grant financial assistance;
2. That Keith McClintock and /or Thomas Curtin is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and to

provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance; and

3. That Geauga Park District does agree to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the Ohio-Great Lakes Coastal Restoration Grant Program.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 5:47 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisitions and personnel.

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

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

LAND ACQUISITION

Bike Trail

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion for the Director to enter into negotiations for property along the bike trail in Claridon, Chardon and Huntsburg Townships per the appraisal price of each parcel of land, including closing costs, in the approximate amount of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00).

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

McMillan Property

Mr. McCullough made a motion for the Director to enter into negotiations for the McMillan property located in Chardon Township for the amount of \$100,000.00 plus closing costs.

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

PERSONNEL

Miss Cope move to accept renewal of the Director's contract, awarding Mr. Curtin a salary of Sixty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$62,000.00) per year. This contract also reflects reimbursement for professional memberships in various organizations of up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). A copy of the Director's contract is on file in the Park District office.

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 September 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 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Curtin, Director

Robert McCullough, President