

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES
April 12, 2005

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on April 12, 2005, 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, Executive Director
Keith McClintock, Deputy Director
Les Bednar, Development Officer
Mike Fabian, Chief Ranger
Joel Firem, Ranger
Barb Emch, Executive Secretary
Kathy Henning, Ranger
Paige Hosier, Marketing Director
Larry McKinnon, Ranger
Robin Pilarczyk, Human Resources Manager
Holly Sauder, Volunteer Coordinator
Eileen Smith, Administrative Assistant

Guests present were:

Linda McKinnon
Ruth Saylor
Amber LeMasters
Jennifer Inghram

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Miss Cope moved to accept the agenda as revised 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

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2005

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved that the minutes of March 8, 2005, be approved as amended.
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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Paige Hosier introduced Holly Sauder as the new Volunteer Coordinator. This position will now be part of the Marketing Department and Holly's office will be located at The West Woods Nature Center. Larry McKinnon introduced his family and friends, Linda McKinnon, Ruth Saylor, Amber LeMasters and Jennifer Inghram.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE MONTH ENDING
March 31, 2005

GENERAL FUND		
BALANCE MARCH 1, 2005		414,608.96
EXPENDITURES		1,791,597.50
Personnel	142,056.04	
Medicare	1,663.10	
Dental /Hospitalization	30,124.27	
PERS	19,529.34	
Unemployment Transfers	1,596.00	
Transfer to Construction Fund	1,500,000.00	

Vouchers	96,628.75	
RECEIPTS		3,120,020.87
General:		
Real Estate Tax	3,073,631.70	
State Reimburse Tax	34,895.00	
Fees:		
Out of County School Program Fees	412.00	
- Camping	20.00	
- Shelters	80.00	
Bid Plans	350.00	
- Rookery Heat	120.00	
- Programs - General	632.00	
Programs - Sugaring	104.00	
Rental Properties		
- Harry- Swine Creek house	350.00	
- Kolar - Burton Wetlands House	350.00	
- McKinnon - Hyde House	350.00	
Sales:		
Sales: Gift Cart - Meyer Center	323.87	
Sales: Tree Tops	505.51	
Sales - Syrup Sales	221.36	
Sales - Credit Cards	1,816.28	
(\$113.26 - Meyer Center, \$1,703.02 Tree Tops)		
Sales: Water Vending Machine Sales - TWW	60.00	
Other:		
Citation Disbursement	151.00	
Donations:	251.00	
- In memory of Paul Jacob (\$175)		
- In memory of Ken Kinder (\$50)		
- Cider donation (\$26)		
Local Government Funds	5,163.31	
Interest earned	33.84	
Other Miscellaneous	200.00	
BALANCE AS OF MARCH 31, 2005		1,743,032.33
CONSTRUCTION FUND		
BALANCE MARCH 1, 2005		912,750.60
EXPENDITURES		112,224.89
Vouchers	112,224.89	
RECEIPTS		1,503,437.04
Interest Earned	2,047.31	
Transfer from General Fund	1,500,000.00	
Donations (In memory of Paul Jacob)	75.00	
Donations : Affelder Trust	406.00	
Royalties: Oxford Oil Co	401.40	
Royalties: Cedar Valley Energy	211.03	
Royalties - Power Gas	296.30	
BALANCE AS OF MARCH 31, 2005		2,303,962.75

VOUCHER RESOLUTION NO. 09-05

Miss Cope moved the adoption of the voucher resolution, a copy of which is on file in the Park District office, so marked Resolution No. 09-05.

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Curtin shared a letter from Mr. Pete C. Miller from the Old Order Amish Safety Committee. The group is asking for an extension of The Maple Highlands Trail from Middlefield to SR. 322 for horse and buggy traffic. Mr. Curtin stated that we should discuss this and get back to Mr. Miller requesting information regarding the anticipated amount of buggy traffic and the trail width required for buggies.

Robert Faehnle, Director of Leadership Geauga, wrote thanking the Park District for sending Keith Chapman to Leadership Geauga this year. He stated that Keith is one of the Park District's assets and was a pleasure to have as a participant.

**ENDOWMENT FUND BY-LAWS
RESOLUTION NO. 10-05**

The Board was given a copy of the by-laws of the Geauga Park District Endowment Fund through the Cleveland Foundation for their review. The by-laws are as follows:

BY-LAWS
GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT ENDOWMENT TRUSTEES

- I. The Geauga Park District Endowment Fund Trustees ("Trustees") shall serve on a permanent committee consisting of three members of the Geauga Park District Board of Park Commissioners; the President, Treasurer, Secretary and At-Large Member of the Geauga Park District Foundation; and the Executive Director and Development Officer of Geauga Park District. A 2/3rds majority of the Trustees' membership is required for a quorum.
- II. It shall be the duty of the Trustees to receive all funds received by Geauga Park District, Geauga Park District Foundation and designated by the donor for endowment purposes. Funds thus received shall be promptly deposited in the Endowment Fund and invested promptly under the "prudent man" rule with the purpose of preserving principal and producing income at appropriate levels.
- III. The Trustees shall, in each even numbered year, select a member to serve as Chairperson for a term of two years. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Trustees, be responsible for calling meetings, as hereafter provided, prepare an agenda for each meeting, and, when necessary, represent the Trustees at meetings of the Geauga Park District Board of Park Commissioners. The Geauga Park District Executive Director shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of income received and disbursed, and investments transferred to The Cleveland Foundation.
- IV. The Trustees shall meet at least twice during each calendar year. Meetings, regular or special, shall be held at the call of the Chairperson, or at the request of a majority of members. The agenda for each meeting shall include: review of investment of funds received since the last meeting and distribution of income received since the last meeting.

- V. It is understood that these by-laws are intended only to aid the Trustees in carrying out its purposes; that the by-laws become effective only upon the approval of a 2/3rds majority vote of the Trustees; and that any additions to or amendments of these by-laws by the Trustees become effective only upon approval by a 2/3rds majority of the Trustees.
- VI. Any procedures not covered by these by-laws shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

Mr. McCullough moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the by-laws of the Geauga Park District Endowment Fund, so marked Resolution No. 10-05.

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 OF APPRECIATION-NO. 11-05
CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS, INC.

Mr. Curtin asked the Board to approve a resolution thanking the Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc. for their help in the grant application for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Program. The Frohring Meadows Community Trails Project has been recommended for funding for a grant in the amount of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00).

Miss Cope moved the adoption of the following resolution so marked Resolution No. 11-05:

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District desired financial assistance for the Frohring Meadows Community Trails Project through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Clean Ohio Trails Fund and the Recreational Trails Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc. provided valuable assistance in the application of the grant for the Frohring Meadows Community Trails project to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources; and,

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District has been recommended for funding in the amount of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) from the Recreational Trails Program; and,

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District and the Geauga County community will benefit from the recreational trail opportunities made possible through the creation of over 3.5 miles of multi-use trails in the Frohring Meadows.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Geauga Park District express their sincere appreciation to Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc. for their help and support in the grant application process.

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

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT NO. 12-05
ODNR DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT- MARINE PATROL GRANT

Mr. Curtin informed the Board that Geauga Park District was awarded the 2005 Marine Patrol Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources- Division of Watercraft in the amount of Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$6,175.00). Mr. Curtin asked the Board to propose a resolution of support for this grant.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved the adoption of the following resolution so marked Resolution No. 12-05:

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District owns 606 acres located in Munson Township, and is known as Bass Lake Preserve, which contains Bass Lake; and

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District is responsible for the resource management of said acreage and shall provide patrons with safe and enjoyable boating opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain critical safety provisions for patrons, it is imperative that Geauga Park District provide seasonal marine patrol of Bass Lake.

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District has been awarded the 2005 Marine Patrol Grant, in the amount not to exceed \$6,175.00, from the Ohio Division of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Geauga Park District Ranger Department is authorized to enter into said funding agreement with the Ohio Division of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft, to facilitate, administer and apply the 2005 Marine Patrol Grant to the 2005 seasonal marine patrol program planned for Bass Lake.

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

RESCIND RESOLUTION NO. 07-05 LEVY RESOLUTION FOR BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Mr. Curtin explained that at the March 8, 2005 meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners Resolution No. 07-05 was approved to place the levy on the November 2005 ballot. The resolution was presented to the Board of Elections and it was found that, as this is a renewal levy, it had to contain the original ballot language. Thus, Mr. Curtin asked the Board to rescind this resolution in order to then pass a new resolution with the correct wording.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to rescind Resolution No. 07-05 for the reasons stated above.

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

LEVY RESOLUTION FOR BOARD OF ELECTIONS NO. 13-05

Mr. Curtin explained that the original levy language specified the park lands to be covered by the levy funds. The Park District has seen substantial growth since then and the new ballot language must reflect that growth. After conferring with the Board of Elections and Park District legal counsel, the new levy resolution for the November 2005 ballot has been written to include all park properties on the original levy as well as current park lands and future park properties.

Mr. McCullough moved the adoption of the following resolution so marked Resolution No. 13-05:

WHEREAS, the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of said Geauga County Park District, Geauga County, Ohio; therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Geauga County Park District Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of Geauga County Park District for the purpose of acquiring future Geauga County Park District lands and preserving, protecting, operating and improving Big Creek Park, Swine Creek Reservation, Russell Park, Whitlam Woods, Best Wildlife Preserve, Becvar Nature Preserve, Woodin Road Park, Husted Woods, Bass Lake Preserve, Beartown Lakes Reservation, Beaver Creek Preserve, Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve, Headwaters Park, Bessie Benner Metzenbaum Park, The Rookery, The West Woods, The Maple Highlands Trail, Sunnybrook Preserve, observatory parklands, Buff-Chardd Preserve, Frohring Meadows, Camp Chickagami and those individual parcels previously acquired in the Grand, Cuyahoga, Chagrin and Mahoning watersheds and preserving and protecting, improving, operating and acquiring future Park District lands under provision of Section 1545.21 of the Ohio Revised Code at a rate not exceeding seven-tenths (.7) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to seven (\$0.07) cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for twenty (20) years, which is a renewal of seven-tenths (.7) mills.

RESOLVED, that the question of levying additional taxes be submitted to the electors of said Geauga County at the General election to be held at the usual voting places within said Geauga County on the 8th day of November, 2005; and be it further

RESOLVED, that said levy be placed upon the tax list of the current year after the February settlement next succeeding the election, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Geauga County Park District Board of Commissioners be and he is hereby directed to certify a copy of the Resolution to the Board of Elections, Geauga County, Ohio by close of business on August 25, 2005 and notify said Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying said tax to be given as required by law.

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

INCREASE OF CONTRACT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. McClintock informed the Board that an increase would be required for the contract for legal expenses with the firm Blaugrund, Herbert, & Martin. He stated that he would recommend increasing the contract by Fifteen to Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00- \$20,000.00) to cover expenses associated with legal issues surrounding personnel issues which will likely be incurred during the rest of the year. Dr. Rzeszotarski asked if this would come from the contingency fund and Mr. McClintock replied in the affirmative.

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to increase the contract for legal services for Blaugrund, Herbert, & Martin by Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00).

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

PARK UPDATES

Mr. Curtin updated the Board on the following:

All Staff Wellness Day-Closing of The West Woods Nature Center

Mr. Curtin stated that the Wellness Day for all Park District staff members will take place on Thursday, April 21st at The West Woods Nature Center. He extended an invitation to the Board members to attend the event. Mr. Curtin asked the Board for approval to close The West Woods Nature Center to the public between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on that day. The activities will be held in the Oak Room, Mastin Classrooms, exhibit area, lobby, and the open area in the lower level thus prohibiting visitor access.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to close The West Woods Nature Center on April 21, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. during the Wellness Day events.

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

Snowmobile Association

Mr. Curtin reported that he met with Mr. Randie Curtis regarding snowmobile trails in Geauga County as a follow up to Mr. Curtis's visit to last month's meeting of the Board where he represented the views of a snowmobile association in the county. Mr. Randie Curtis told him that the organization is now canvassing landowners to obtain formalized agreements for access to trails. Tom Curtin reported that he has offered the Park District's help in obtaining grants to acquire and preserve the association's trails for riding snowmobiles. Randie Curtis stated that his group appreciated the offer of help.

Council of Park Districts

Mr. Curtin reported that he met with Chris Craycroft, Director of Portage County Park District and Keith Shy, Director of Metroparks serving Summit County to discuss a request for proposal for a wetlands study to find out which lands would be appropriate for wetlands mitigation. Mr. Curtin stated that a bank account is being established and stationery supplies are being ordered. Geauga Park District had budgeted Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for this purpose. The funds will be transferred once the account is established.

Taylor Wells Road Bridge Construction

Mr. Curtin met with the Claridon Township Trustees last month regarding the road closure for construction of the bridge over Taylor Wells Rd. He also attended their meeting on April 11, 2005 and was met with several questions regarding the project. Some residents had heard rumors about the Park District placing utilities or high tension lines down the right-of-way. Mr. Curtin shared with the residents that the Geauga Park District Board of Commissioners were on record in their minutes from 1996 stating that they opposed placing power lines along the right-of-way. Mr. Curtin stated that we will work with the Power Siting Board on any future discussion of utilities along the right-of-way. Some residents expressed concern about traffic issues due to the road closure and asked whether a single lane could be maintained. Mr. Curtin will attend the Claridon Township Trustee meeting on April 25, 2005 to provide more information to the residents about the cost of maintaining a single lane.

Hours of Operation

Mr. Curtin opened a discussion about the hours of operation at The West Woods Nature Center. He passed out data representing visitation numbers during certain time segments throughout the day. Currently the hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends from November through March and 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekends from April through October. The Naturalist Department staff are requesting to change the hours that the Nature Center is open to the public to 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on a year round- seven day per week basis. The data indicated that visitor attendance was very low in the early morning hours and the last hour of the day. Mr. Curtin stated that standardizing the hours would make sense. Mr. McCullough asked about the availability of restrooms for early birders. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested that a sign be posted informing early patrons of the availability of water and restrooms in the shelter area. Miss Cope inquired about when the doors would be opened to the public and was told that the doors would be locked until 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to approve changing the hours of public visitation at The West Woods Nature Center to 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seven days per week as stated 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

City of Chardon Access Agreement

Mr. Curtin reported that the City of Chardon has requested that the Park District enter into an access agreement for the city's sewer project. They would be permitted access through Park District property off the right-of-way from South Street. Their project will last approximately twelve to fifteen months. The language of the agreement has been approved by our legal counsel and the document has been sent to the City of Chardon for signature.

Affelder House Improvements

The gas line installation has been completed and the electrical work is at 75% completion. Plumbing fixtures have been acquired and are on site for the contractor to install.

Frohring Meadows

The archaeological survey request for quotes was mailed on April 12th with responses due on April 28th. Requests for design firms have been distributed and are due on May 5th. Dr. Rzeszotarski asked about the time table for the establishment of the prairie at Frohring Meadows. Mr. McClintock stated that plantings would be done in the fall after two applications of herbicides to kill off the warm season grasses.

The Maple Highlands Trail – Central

Mr. Curtin reported that payment request number three was received from Soda Construction Company. Payments submitted to date represent 24% of federal funds and 19% of the total project cost. An update of the construction schedule was requested as the weather has put the project about four weeks behind. A change order for Richland Engineering will be necessary for work beyond the original scope due to the issues of traffic detours for the construction of the bridges.

Mountain Run Station

Mark Haynes Construction has submitted all pre-contract documents and a signed contract. Tom Curtin explained that he is waiting for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District to complete their reviews. A Notice to Proceed will then be issued to the contractor.

Observatory Project

Mr. Curtin informed the Board that the Natural Resources Department continues to work on the site inventory. A 3-corner survey was performed so the alignment of the driveway can be established. A request for qualifications for design and engineering services is being developed.

Grandview Golf Club Survey

A survey is being completed of the Grandview Golf Club property to establish what property is owned by the Park District. Once the property is staked we will begin negotiations with the Grandview Golf Club owners.

Silver Creek Restoration

Mr. McClintock reported that Biohabitats, Inc. will return to the site with work to be substantially completed by mid-May

RESOLUTION NO. 14-05

APPOINTMENT OF SERGEANT RANGER

RESCIND RESOLUTION NO. 11-97

A rescission of resolution No. 11-97, dated May 13, 1997, (*Geauga Park District Minutes, May 13, 1997, Book 5, Page 64*) was brought forward to reflect a change in status for Larry McKinnon from Ranger to Sergeant Ranger. Larry McKinnon was appointed to the position of Ranger with Resolution No. 11-97. The promotion to Sergeant Ranger requires a new resolution and was proposed as follows:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with section 1545.13 of the Ohio Revised Code, Larry McKinnon be appointed as Sergeant Ranger of Geauga Park District, and

RESOLVED, that this appointment shall be effective on the date of April 12, 2005.

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to rescind resolution No. 11-97, dated May 13, 1997, and to approve the resolution of appointment of Larry McKinnon to Sergeant Ranger as stated above, so marked Resolution No. 14-05.

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

Mr. Curtin administered the oath of office to Sergeant McKinnon in the company of his fellow rangers, family and friends.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-05
ODNR DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT PUBLIC BOATING
FACILITY PROJECT GRANT

Mr. Curtin stated that Geauga Park District applied for a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources- Division of Watercraft-Cooperative Public Boating Facility Project to improve the public boat launch at Bass Lake Preserve. Les Bednar stated that we asked for Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) to leverage the Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) budgeted for the project. Due to the time sensitivity of the grant deadline, April 1, 2005, the Board discussed and approved the following resolution of support for this grant on March 28, 2005, so marked Resolution No. 15-05.

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District owns 606 acres located in Munson Township, and is known as Bass Lake Preserve, which contains Bass Lake; and

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District is responsible for the resource management of said acreage and shall provide patrons with safe and enjoyable boating opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain critical safety provisions for patrons and law enforcement personnel, it is imperative that Geauga Park District improve and enhance the public boat launch and boating support facilities such as parking and accessibility, located on the west-northwest shore of Bass Lake.

WHEREAS, Geauga Park District is desirous to be awarded the 2005 Cooperative Public Boating Facility Grant from the Ohio Division of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Geauga Park District Project Manager has the authority to apply for and administer the 2005 Cooperative Public Boating Facility Grant on behalf of the applicant.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to approve and enter into the minutes the above stated resolution in support of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources- Division of Watercraft-Cooperative Public Boating Facility Project grant.

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

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Mr. Curtin informed the Board that the liability insurance for the Park District is up for renewal on April 25, 2005. The renewal contract with the Public Entities Pool of Ohio for one year is in the amount of Seventy One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$71,994.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to approve the contract with the Public Entities Pool of Ohio for liability insurance for the annual premium of Seventy One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$71,994.00).

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

BASS LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

Mr. Curtin explained that two years ago we entered into a Use Agreement with the Bass Lake Homeowners Association. The Agreement allowed them to have up to five boats on the lake per day, and the use of the lodge in exchange for litter removal, grass mowing and minor repairs to the lodge building. He stated that this arrangement has been going well and that we have agreed to renew the use agreement in five (5) year increments. Both parties would have the option of terminating the agreement with a thirty day (30) notice. The members of the association also indicated that they have some funds which they would like to use on the lodge building. Tom explained that we could ask them for reimbursement for improvements, such as a dehumidifier or fans.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to approve the Bass Lake Homeowners Association agreement for a period of five years beginning April 12, 2005.

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

REVIEW OF LEVY BROCHURE

Mr. Curtin passed out a draft of a levy brochure which focuses on the citizens' investment in the Park District and how that investment has increased without additional tax dollars. Additional facts and figures need to be added. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested that the number of shelter reservations and patrons served as a free service to county residents be included. Miss Cope added that the information should be simply stated and positive. Mr. Curtin replied that he would take the suggestions to the designer and would send the Board a new draft in their weekly update.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr. Curtin explained that we are in the process of updating the Strategic Plan. Each department has developed an analysis of Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Threats (S.C.O.T. analysis) as well as a vision map showing how each department interacts with each other. Mr. Curtin stated that more elements would be forthcoming such as an organizational chart, a breakdown of projects and costs, staffing requirements and anticipated growth. He asked the Board members to review the documents for discussion at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 4:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel matters.

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 5:50p.m. The following was discussed for resolution:

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL 367

A discussion was held on the proposed Ohio House Bill 367 which would permit park districts operating under Ohio Revised Code Section 1545.21 to increase the size of their Boards of Commissioners.

Mr. McCullough suggested that the proposal has advantages and disadvantages. Advantages are more diverse viewpoints and better representation in the county. Disadvantages are the

potential for more dissention and the length of time it would take to get new members up to speed with the history, philosophy, and processes of the Park District.

Miss Cope agreed that more board members would allow for greater geographical representation, a wider spectrum of values and wise counsel, and provide an opportunity for standing committees, such as a finance committee. She suggested that a larger board would result in more discussion which could benefit through additional ways of thinking. She stated that she felt that a larger board may be of more help to the Executive Director.

Dr. Rzeszotarski agreed that from the standpoint of getting input from the county, the Park District may be better served by having five members. He indicated a new person to the Board may take as much as two years to acquire the understanding required to fully and knowledgeably participate as a Board member as was the case for him when he began on the Board.

Mr. Curtin stated that he feels the current board members complement each other but it may be helpful to have more discussion of issues.

Dr. Rzeszotarski indicated that he would like to think about this issue for another month and resume discussion at the next meeting.

LAND ACQUISITION

Hambden Township

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into negotiations for real property located in Hambden Township.

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

Newbury Township

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into negotiations for real property located in Newbury Township.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 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, Executive Director

Robert McCullough, President