

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES
October 25, 2006

A special meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on October 25, 2006 at The West Woods Nature Center in Russell, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 4:45 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
Barb Emch, Executive Secretary
Paige Hosier, Marketing Director

Visitors Present:
Diane Ryder, *The News Herald*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Miss Cope moved to accept the agenda for the meeting.

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

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

2007 SMALL RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL IDEAS

Mr. Curtin gave the Board members a list of suggestions for research projects for next year's round of Small Research Project Grants. He asked the Board members to review the list and respond to him with any additions or comments by this Friday, October 27th.

BEST PRESERVE DAM PROJECT CHANGE ORDER NO. 1

Mr. Curtin explained that an increase in the contract with Clemson Excavating Inc. for the dam clearing project was necessary to cover the costs of adding stone to stop the erosion on the shore of the lake. The trail is in danger of being eroded. The increase of Forty-Three Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$43,100.00) will cover the costs to stabilize the embankment. Mr. McClintock stated that even with this additional cost, the total project is still within the budgeted amount.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to approve the Best Preserve Dam Project Change Order No. 1 for Clemson Excavating Inc. in the amount of Forty-Three Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$43,100.00) as stated above.

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

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

THE TREELINE TELEGRAPH BID PACKAGE

Mr. Curtin explained that it is time to put out the bid for the contract to print the Park District newsletter, the *Treeline Telegraph*. He stated that we are considering revamping the newsletter and going with color on the front and back cover or with full color. Paige Hosier added that going with a full color publication would add approximately twenty percent (20%) to the price. Mr. Curtin stated that the contract with Ballash Press Inc. for one year is Twenty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$28,800.00) and to go with full color would cost Thirty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$33,600.00). Paige stated that we need to go out to bid for this contract as we have one more issue under the current contract.

Mr. McCullough commented that color would make it easier to identify different issues. Miss Cope questioned the need for color and Mr. Curtin replied that people are more apt to pick up and read a publication that is in color. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested keeping the back page as a tear-off educational piece that could be kept and saved for future reference or sent to friends. Dr. Rzeszotarski added that he would like to see some of the small grant research posted in the newsletter.

Mr. Curtin stated that we would also like to bid out the design and writing of the newsletter as it is sometimes difficult to obtain well-written articles by our own staff due to varying degrees of writing ability. Paige noted that the Park District would still edit and direct the articles. She added that the writing portion would be separated in the bid as not all printers have writers on staff.

Paige asked the Board how they would like to distribute the annual report. Currently it is an insert in the newsletter. She would like to see the annual report placed on the Park District website for general distribution and then mailed to a target population. If it is handled in this manner we would require 5000 copies rather than 45,000. Dr. Rzeszotarski and Miss Cope thought that this would be a good idea.

Paige noted that she needs to put the bid package together in the next two weeks in order to get the numbers into the budget. The contract would not be negotiated until January.

Paige thanked the Board members for their input.

SUNNYBROOK PRESERVE PUBLIC MEETING

Mr. Curtin passed out a postcard that was sent to the neighbors of the Sunnybrook Preserve. A public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Geauga West Library. The meeting was also advertised in a press release as it is open to the public. The meeting is designed to gather input from residents regarding the development of Sunnybrook Preserve.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR WESTERN RESERVE LAND CONSERVANCY

Mr. Curtin stated that the Park District received a request from the Western Reserve Land Conservancy for our support as they are working with the Village of South Russell to preserve the former Muggleton Farm which is directly north of Frohring Meadows. Mr. McClintock added that the Park District could provide a connection from our trail system at Frohring Meadows to the Village property on Washington Street allowing visitors to access the trails on both properties. All that is being requested at this time is a letter of support. The Park District does not have to commit to a completion date of our proposed trail link and there is no commitment of financial support.

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion of support of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy's efforts to work with the Village of South Russell to preserve the former Muggleton Farm.

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

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 5:07 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, pending litigation, and the hiring of new employees.

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

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

The Board returned from Executive Session at 5:55 p.m. No action was taken.

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