

**GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 25, 2009**

A special meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on August 25, 2009 at Frohring Meadows Park in Bainbridge Township, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. President Robert McCullough was in the Chair. Board members Mark Rzeszotarski and John Leech were present.

Employees present:

Tom Curtin, Executive Director  
Keith McClintock, Deputy Director  
Tami Gingrich, Field Naturalist  
Robert Urban, Chief Ranger

Visitors present:

None

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Leech moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

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

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Dr. Rzeszotarski | Yes |
| Mr. McCullough   | Yes |
| Mr. Leech        | Yes |

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

There were no minutes presented for adoption.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

No guests were present.

**PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

There were no financials presented.

**PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS**

There were no vouchers presented for approval.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

No communications to the Board were presented.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

No members of the public were present.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Communications Proposal Discussion**

The Board viewed the area of Frohring Meadows Park where the Sheriff's Department is proposing the public safety radio communications tower be located. The proposed location is within one hundred feet of a secondary site located on private property.

Robert Urban, Chief Ranger, provided a summary as to the safety reasons why the tower is needed in this location. The Board discussed how the proposed location for the tower is in an already disturbed area along a major power line corridor. The Board asked that the following questions be answered by the Sheriff's Department before a decision is made:

- 1) Can the Sheriff's Department contact the Bainbridge Township Trustees to gauge their level of support and acceptance of the two tower locations (on private land vs. on Geauga Park District land)?

- 2) Will the Sheriff's Department lease any of the tower space to private entities (like cell phone companies)?
- 3) How much was the offer to the private landowner (i.e., how much taxpayer money would be saved by placing the tower on Geauga Park District property)?
- 4) If Geauga Park District agrees to allow the tower on park property, could we work on announcing this in a joint press release?
- 5) Could the Sheriff's Department work with the Geauga County Commissioners and have them officially make a request of Geauga Park District in writing for the tower location on park property?

Mr. McClintock will follow-up on the questions with the Sheriff's Department. The issue will be discussed at the September board meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Natural Resource Management Update**

Tami Gingrich, Field Naturalist, provided an update on the prairie garden near the shelter at Frohring Meadows. The garden is a showcase of the forty species of prairie plants that were part of the seed mix for the prairie plantings at Frohring Meadows.

Ms. Gingrich then discussed the project she is working on. The Natural Resource Management department was shocked at the number of shorebirds that showed up in the mud flat area at Frohring Meadows. As a portion of the mudflat began to grow over, Sora and Virginia Rails and their young were observed. Both are listed as Species of Special Concern in Ohio. Ms. Gingrich installed a rail trap and, on the first night, caught both species.

The Board was very impressed with the work being conducted by the Natural Resource Management department.

### **COMMISSIONERS' TIME**

Nothing to report.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION – ROLL CALL**

There was no need for Executive Session.

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD**

There were no reports from Committees of the Board.

### **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOARD**

There were no reports from Officers and Employees of the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 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,

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Thomas G. Curtin, Executive Director

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Robert McCullough, President