

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
September 20, 2008

The special meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on September 20, 2008 at The West Woods Nature Center, Russell Township, Ohio for the purpose of discussing the strategic plan update. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. President Robert McCullough was in the Chair. Board members Dr. Rzeszotarski and Mr. Leech were present.

Employees present:
Tom Curtin, Executive Director
Keith McClintock, Deputy Director

Visitors Present:
John Horton

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Leech moved to adopt the revised agenda for the meeting.
Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Mr. Leech	Yes

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

No minutes were presented for adoption at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Curtin introduced John Horton from the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Curtin read an anonymous letter from someone who feels that magnetic waves and the use of modern technology is negatively impacting our modern world and that use of computers and cell phones by Geauga Park District staff runs counter to our mission.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr. Curtin presented the revised Strengths-Challenges-Opportunities-Threats (SCOT) analysis that had been reviewed and updated by administration, supervisors and staff for review by the Board. A lengthy discussion followed on each of the items within the SCOT analysis with the following points being made:

- o Coordination with the arts needs to be added to the Strength's column.
- o References to holding major exhibits at The West Woods Nature Center every two to three years should be removed and the term "periodic" exhibits should be used.
- o A better definition of "passive" recreation is needed.
- o Land acquisition objectives need to be clarified with specific criteria.
- o The relationship between Geauga Park District and the Geauga Park District Foundation needs to be highlighted throughout.
- o There is a need to target seniors for programming.
- o The Geauga Park District web page needs to be updated to facilitate navigation and to provide an explanation of the services we provide. Presentations and lectures could be video-taped and linked to the web page.
- o Fall colors should be marketed.
- o The Geauga Park District vision should include transparency of our work.
- o Future Ranger headquarters should be sited based on most direct routes to parks and specific needs of the parks.

Projects for 2009 and beyond were briefly discussed. It was agreed that the Board, Administration, Operations Director and Planning Director should meet in the near future at another special board meeting to specifically look at future park projects.

OBSERVATORY PARK – OFFICIAL NAMING

Mr. Curtin stated that staff keeps coming back to using the name “Observatory Park” for the park on Clay Street in Montville Township. After some discussion, the Board agreed.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to adopt the name “Observatory Park” as the official name of the park on Clay Street in Montville Township.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Mr. Leech	Yes

NEW BUSINESS

WORK AGREEMENT – BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Mr. Curtin presented a work agreement from the Geauga County Engineer’s Office for work required within the right-of-way for culvert work on Savage Road in Bainbridge Township adjacent to Frohring Meadows Park. After several questions concerning impacts to park property, the Board agreed to enter into the work agreement.

Mr. Leech moved to enter into a work agreement with the Geauga County Engineer’s Office for work along Savage Road in Bainbridge Township.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Mr. Leech	Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Curtin stated that there were no issues to be brought before the Board requiring an 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

Keith McClintock submitted an “Agreement Between Ohio Wetlands Foundation and Geauga Park District for the Ownership, Operation, Management and Funding of the Pine Brook Wetland Mitigation Bank” in Montville Township for the Board to sign.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to sign the “Agreement Between Ohio Wetlands Foundation and Geauga Park District for the Ownership, Operation, Management and Funding of the Pine Brook Wetland Mitigation Bank” in Montville Township.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Mr. Leech	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 12:09 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