

**GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 8, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on April 8, 2014 at The West Woods Nature Center, Russell Twp., Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. President Mary Ruth Shumway was in the Chair. Commissioner Louis Mucci was present.

President Mary Ruth Shumway called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**GPD**

**Employees**

John Oros, Interim Deputy Director  
Anna McDonald, Executive Secretary  
Michele Pennell, CFO  
Paige Orvis, Marketing & Administrative Services Director  
Aaron Young, Planning Director  
Matt McCue, Strategic Planning Director  
Robin Pilarczyk, Human Resources Director  
Brett Bellas, Maintenance Supervisor  
Emilie Gottsegen, Development Director  
Gloria Freno, GPD Finance Department  
Wesley Krigbaum, GPD Operations Department

**Guests**

David Ondrey, Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan  
Josh Echt, Geauga Maple Leaf  
Joy Keco, Geauga Ohio Horsemen's Council  
Nora Stanton, Geauga Ohio Horsemen's Council  
John Augustine, Parkman Resident  
John Ralph, County Resident  
Marianne MacLean, Chardon Resident  
Esther Laczko, Chardon Twp. Resident  
Terry Taylor, Chardon Resident  
Tom & Diane Jones, A Wind in the Woods Farm

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Mucci stated that the Bylaws do not require that the meeting agenda be adopted by the Board, and that going forward it is not necessary. Mr. Mucci requested that Executive Session be moved to the beginning of the meeting. Mrs. Shumway agreed with the request.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing potential land acquisition and pending litigation.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0.

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to come out of Executive Session.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0.

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. There were no items brought forward.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

The Board was presented with minutes from the March 4, 2014 Regular Board meeting.

Mr. Mucci questioned the Board meeting minutes regarding *BAK Grant (Middlefield Wetlands)* stating that the amount of monies that the Park District would reimburse Western Reserve Land Conservancy (WRLC) was incorrect. Ms. Pennell advised that the amount the Park District was required to reimburse WRLC for grants received by the Park District for funding the project was an unspecified amount and that the Park District’s determined amount for reimbursement to WRLC is Eighty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars (\$82,659.00). Mr. Mucci requested the March 4<sup>th</sup> minutes be revised to reflect the correct information.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to approve the March 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes as amended.

Mr. Shumway seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS/QUESTIONS FROM GUESTS**

Mrs. Shumway requested that all guests introduce themselves, and pose any questions they may have for the Board. She added that questions not addressed during the course of the meeting will be answered at the end of the meeting.

Terry Taylor, Chardon, Ohio, requested that the Board consider flying the American flag on the existing flag poles at Headwaters and Chickagami Parks, and informed the Board that he has made this request twice before. The Board thanked Mr. Taylor for bringing this to their attention. After discussion it was decided that until a light could be installed to illuminate the flags for 24-hour flying, the Park District would make sure flags are raised and lowered each day at Headwaters and Chickagami Parks. Operations will take responsibility for the installation of the lights for the flags.

John Augustine, Parkman Township, requested the Board share some of the items that were cut from budget due to the cost savings initiatives. He commented on last year’s Board approval of swing sets for \$50,000.00 and refusal to approve a grant for spotted turtle research. Mr. Mucci shared some of the budget deductions and added that the planned playgrounds are moving forward, as are the Naturalist programs and Natural Resource Management (NRM) budgeted items. He requested that Mr. Augustine share his thoughts with NRM for future studies, as the Board anticipates increases in the 2015 Budget for NRM and Naturalist departments as they are the primary departments that promote the Park’s mission to ‘preserve, conserve and protect’. Mrs. Shumway confirmed to Mr. Augustine that there were only two (2) requests for small research grants this year and both were approved.

**PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Board was provided with a copy of the March 2014 Financial Statement. Ms Pennell provided an overview and all questions by the Board were satisfactorily answered.

**Geauga Park District**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT MONTH ENDED**  
MARCH 31, 2014  
**GENERAL FUND**

<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE MARCH 1, 2014</b>	<b>4,576,716.44</b>
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<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER USES</b>	
Personnel	221,377.51
Medicare	3,182.92
Dental /Hospitalization	48,044.92
PERS (February payment)	32,039.45
Unemployment Transfers	2,752.00
Vouchers	147,704.00
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER USES</b>	<b>455,100.80</b>

<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER SOURCES</b>	
<u>General Tax Collections</u>	
- Real Estate Tax (1st half settlement)	2,986,880.61
 <u>Investment Income</u>	
	74.28
 <u>Gifts &amp; Donations</u>	
	64,576.90
- Bird Seed Donation - \$4.00	
- Program Donations - \$3,333.04	
-GPD Foundation Transfer - \$61,239.86	
 <u>Fees</u>	
- Camping	100.00
- Shelters	400.00
- Utility fees	1,470.00
- Programs - Out-of-county	177.00
 <u>Sales</u>	
- Tapper's Treasures - MC	89.45
- Tree Tops - TWW	647.94
- Syrup Sales	1,144.21
- Credit Card - All facilities	483.48
 <u>Other Receipts</u>	
- Observatory house - Sindelar	300.00
- Foundation rental space/equipment - GPD Foundation	501.84
- Swine Creek house - Harry	400.00
- Burton Wetlands house- Kolar	400.00
- Hyde house - Krigbaum	400.00
- Chickagami house - Maksim	400.00
- Local Government Funds	5,088.30
- Miscellaneous Receipts	1,136.72
- The General Insurance MHT Accident Reimbursement	

<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER SOURCES</b>	<b>3,064,670.73</b>
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF MARCH 31, 2014</b>	<b>7,186,286.37</b>

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**LAND IMPROVEMENT FUND**

<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE MARCH 1, 2014</b>	<b>2,868,909.05</b>
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<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER USES</b>		
Vouchers	4,009.90	
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER USES</b>	<b>4,009.90</b>	

<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER SOURCES</b>		
<i>Investment Income</i>	45.43	
<i>Gifts &amp; Donations</i>	319,888.84	
- GPD Foundation - Observatory Park Phase III - \$22,524.12		
- GPD Foundation - Nassau - \$297,364.72		
<i>Royalties/In-Lieu Fees</i>	320.95	
- Sunnybrook - \$115.67, Ford-Windsor - \$87.86, Farley - \$117.42		
<i>Other Revenue</i>	103,880.00	
- Ohio Wetlands Foundation -Pinebrook Mitigation Credits Sold 2013		
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER SOURCES</b>	<b>424,135.22</b>	
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF MARCH 31, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 3,289,034.37</b>	

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**RETIREMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT**

<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE MARCH 1, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 82,416.13</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER USES</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Vouchers	-
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER SOURCES</b>	<b>1.27</b>
<i>Investment Income</i>	1.27
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF MARCH 31, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 82,417.40</b>

**PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS**

Mr. Mucci commended the Finance Department on the level of detail provided to the Board.

Ms. Pennell gave an overview of March 2014 checks written, unemployment payments and personnel expenses. Mr. Mucci stated that during the March Board meeting the Board requested a process to approve vouchers in advance of payment and asked Mr. Oros for an update on the procedure. Mr. Oros stated the process currently in place is to forward the Board a daily and weekly list of pending Intents to Order (ITO’s) for review/approval, and there is no process developed to provide complete list of Vouchers for Board pre-approval of expenses to be paid by month. Mr. Oros stated a formal policy/process would be developed for Board review and approval. Ms. Pennell expanded on the current procedure and added that Mr. Oros and the Board are also supplied with a weekly list of invoices to be submitted to the Auditor’s office, allowing a second point for review prior to payment.

Mr. Mucci acknowledged that receiving daily ITO’s is an improvement in the process but the objective is to get departments thinking 30-60-90 days out on what their needs are so that review of the larger expenses can be accomplished at a Board meeting well in advance of when the purchase needs to be made. Mr. Mucci stated that when the Board receives the next Board meeting packet the goal is that a list of all outstanding/proposed expenditures (approved by Finance and Mr. Oros) for the next month should be included for final review and approval.

There were additional discussions regarding the process for unexpected expenditures and confirmation that the ITO’s presently being held for questions will be submitted to the Board for review and approval. Mr. Oros summarized the proposed procedure stating that in addition to the unapproved ITO’s the Board packet would continue to include a list of monthly routine vouchers that have been paid, along with non-routine outstanding vouchers, and ITO’s for upcoming departmental expenses and large projects.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to accept the March 2014 vouchers as presented.

Mr. Shumway seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

**APPROVAL AUTHORIZATION LEVELS**

The Board requested the Approval Authorization Levels memo be revised based on the proposed changes to the voucher approval process and purchasing guidelines. Ms. Pennell will submit the revised memo, revised voucher approval and purchasing guidelines for Board review and approval.

**2015 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

The Board was presented with the timeline for preparation of the 2015 Temporary Budget. Mr. Mucci stated that prior to budget preparation he would like reviews of the following so finding can be included in the budget process: Ranger, Naturalist and Natural Resource Management Departments, a Strategic Technology review, a Land Acquisition Plan and completion of a portion of the Strategic Plan. Ms. Pennell stated her concerns that the if the Board requests the Temporary Budget to be of greater detail and scale than in the past, there is not enough time to accomplish it. The Board concurred that the Temporary Budget should be started as in the past, with an effort to start departmental reviews now in order to include as much granular detail as possible, prior to the July 20<sup>th</sup> submission to the County Budget Commission for approval.

**1<sup>st</sup> HALF REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTION/CASH TRANSFER, RESOLUTION NO. 09-14**

The Board was advised that Geauga Park District received the 1<sup>st</sup> half real-estate taxes from the County Treasure and Auditor’s office and was presented with a request to approve Resolution No. 09-14 to transfer

\$500,000.00 from the General Fund (6017) to the Land Improvement Fund (6015), representing the total amount to be transferred to the Land Improvement Fund during 2014

Mr. Mucci made a motion to approve Resolution No. 09-14 transferring \$500,000.00 from the General Fund (6017) to the Land Improvement Fund (6015).

Mr. Shumway seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

**CERTIFICATION/APPROPRIATIONS AMENDMENT NO. 3, RESOLUTION NO. 10-14**

The Board was requested to approve Resolution No. 10-14, Certification/Appropriations Amendment No. 3 to the 2014 Budget as follows:

Add a total of \$158,114.17 in appropriations to the Land Improvement fund to include:

\$92,314.17 - Contracts - Projects Account (6015-057-00-603)

- MHT – South, \$69,834.50- To allow for future construction change order costs to not exceed approved budgeted amount from 2013.
- MHT – Chardon Connector, \$8,854.67- To allow for future construction change order costs to not exceed approved budgeted amount from 2013.
- Observatory Park Shelter, \$13,625 – To allow for the Construction crew to install concrete and electrical into the structure but not enclose.

\$65,800.00 - Contracts – Professional Services Account (6015-057-00-601)

- Ohio Wetland mitigation credit purchase, \$61,600.00 – The final step in approving the mitigation credit purchase for which the Board approved in the March meeting, now appropriations need to be approved for the budget.
- Schwartz Land Surveying McAdam King land swap, \$4,200.00 – To allow for a Board approved survey to occur for this property.

Certify additional funds to include:

- \$1,200.00 to the General Fund – Grant from the Department of Justice for Ranger vests.
- \$103,880.00 to the Land Improvement Fund – Total sales of mitigation credits in 2013 Pinebrook mitigation bank by Ohio Wetlands Foundation.

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to approve Certification/Appropriations Budget Amendment No. 3, Resolution No. 10-14 as presented.

Mr. Mucci seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

**GPD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Emilie Gottsegen provided the Board with an update on the Park District Development Department and the Geauga Park Foundation. Ms. Gottsegen stated that since the beginning of the year, the Development Department, in partnership with the Foundation, has brought in \$167,652. Of the funds received, \$159,000.00 was through the Foundation for the Nassau Station and Observatory Park, with \$8,362.00 donated directly to the Park District. There is an internal goal of obtaining \$10,000.00 for Caveman Crawl sponsorship with

\$7,200.00 raised to date, and a \$15,000.00 goal for the Chip Henry Institute with \$8,500.00 raised to date. \$174,000.00 is still required for the Nassau Station project. The Board offered their assistance in meeting with Foundation personnel and to discuss prospective donor opportunities. Ms. Gottsegen will follow up with Mr. Mucci for discussions. The Board thanked Ms. Gottsegen for the update and for the great work of the Development office.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

### **COMMISSIONER'S**

Mrs. Shumway reported that Judge Grendell's office provided the Board with resumes for prospective Commissioners. Mr. Mucci stated that he and Mrs. Shumway will review the resumes and develop an interview process. The Board hopes to provide an update on the process at the May 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Mr. Mucci requested an update on the review of the fleet of Park District vehicles. Mr. Oros advised that Matt McCue will have a final document to him by Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> for review and presentation to the Board.

Mr. Mucci requested the status of the Board requested on-line staff training relating to the policy and procedures training held at the March 20<sup>th</sup> all-staff meeting. Mr. Oros stated that the Park District will take advantage of on-line training through the County and will roll out the process at the April 10<sup>th</sup> Supervisors' meeting. Robin Pilarczyk added that the training includes testing with results that are recorded at the County level and supplied to the Park District. All full and part-time employees will be required to complete the training by May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Mr. Mucci requested that he and Mrs. Shumway receive a weekly summary on the progress of the training.

Mrs. Shumway acknowledged that the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> and that it was a tremendous success. Mr. Oros added that Audrey Hudak, who started volunteering in 1988, received the Bob McCullough Lifetime Achievement Award and John Kolar did a great rendition of John Muir

Mr. Oros provided the Board with an update on the Park District maple syrup production as follows: 7,680 gallons of sap were collected, producing 188.5 gallons of maple syrup. The sap to syrup ratio was 40.7 gallons of sap per gallon of syrup.

### **PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Nassau Station Restoration: Aaron Young reported that the Board was provided with an informational memo and three (3) proposed design summaries that included the addition of a multi-purpose activity room to accommodate approximately 100 persons, flush toilets, sinks and public drinking fountain, along with a review from Naturalist Services Department of the proposed space and potential program use. There were discussions regarding the Park District's need for an additional multi-purpose room based on usage of current facilities. Mr. Young reported that with the re-design proposals to the current structure the new code bracket increases facility capacity from 49 to 99 people, without adding the multi-purpose room. Based on the inconclusiveness of the need for the multi-purpose room, the Board requested that Mr. Young secure a quote for redesign of the current facility to include flush toilets, running water with the provision for future expansion capabilities to include a multi-purpose room with running water. This option will allow for further collection of data relating to current Observatory Park facility usage, proposed usage of the Nassau facility the Park District, and the opportunity for public input regarding the want and need for further expansion of the Nassau Station. Mr. Young will present a revised design summary and pricing to the Board upon receipt.

Geauga Park District – Proposed Recreational Additions: At the Board's request the Planning Department prepared a summary and layouts of proposed recreational activities for existing parks within Geauga Park

District. The summary included immediate, short term and proposed future projects. Mr. Young stated that immediate improvements were relatively inexpensive, would stand the test of time (weather, potential vandalism) and had little impact on daily park operations, i.e., volley ball nets, tetherball would stay up all summer and patrons would bring their own equipment for use with the other activity venues (bocce balls, volley balls, softball equipment, horse shoes). Mrs. Shumway inquired into and requested information as to Park District insurance requirements for the addition of the proposed activities.

In response to questions/discussions regarding which Parks were chosen for improvements, Mr. Young stated that the planning process used insured that additional recreational opportunities were offered to all parts of the county and requested input from the Board. Mr. Mucci stated that the proposal was in the right direction but he would like outreach to youth groups and athletic leagues to determine if these improvements would generate additional park usage. Mr. Young advised that the proposed activity areas were focused on the casual family Park users who reserved a shelter, not facilities for organized athletic groups. Mr. Oros added that the Strategic Planning process, which will include public input, should drive long range plans, but these projects are intended to make an immediate impact for a limited amount of money. Mr. Young added that public input from public meetings for Chickagami and Sunnybrook confirmed the proposed amenities are in line with activities the Public requested.

The Board agreed that these projects should be pursued. Mr. Oros suggested that a comprehensive by-Park project plan, including budget appropriations and insurance requirements and costs be presented to the Board at the May Board meeting.

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to proceed with all proposed immediate recreational improvements at Bass Lake Preserve, Beartown Lakes Reservation, Big Creek Park, Chickagami Park, Frohring Meadows, Headwaters Park, Sunnybrook Preserve and Swine Creek Reservation, and for the Fishing Dock improvement at Beartown Lakes Reservation, with the exception of the Archery Range.

Mr. Mucci seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

Mr. Oros stated that since all projects are being completed in-house, it may take multiple years to complete. Mr. Young proposed that he and Mr. Bellas meet to develop an implementation plan starting with areas that will make the most impact and proceed Park by Park.

#### **CONTRACT APPROVAL – OBSERVATORY PARK CONNECTOR TRAIL**

A proposal was presented to the Board to award a contract for completion of the Observatory Park-Nassau Station Connector Trail project. Eight (8) lump-sum bids were received, with the apparent low bid submitted by Marks Construction, Inc., in an amount of \$83,311.50. It is recommended that the Board of Commissioners award the bid the Marks Construction, Inc., based on the following:

- The submitted bid has been reviewed and is determined to be complete.
- The submitted bid is well within the budgeted amount of \$103,000.00.
- After checking their references and Findings for Recovery, Marks Construction, Inc; 5855 Center Rd., Valley City, OH 44280 appears to be a reputable and fiscally responsible company.

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to accept the bid submitted by Marks Construction, Inc., as presented, for the Observatory Park-Nassau Station Connector Trail project.



Mr. Mucci seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

**SURPLUS PROPERTY**

The Board was asked to approve the following as Surplus Property:

	Inventory No.	Description	Starting Bid
1	-	DV-68 Multi media player (item defective)	Scrap
2	1963 E	DELL Inspiron 9400 Laptop (item defective)	Scrap
3	-	APC Backup RS 800 UPS (item defective)	Scrap
4	1893 E	DELL E173FP Flat Panel Monitor (item defective)	Scrap
5	-	Konica 35mm SLR film camera set (includes 2 cameras, lens, flash, teleconverter, mount, case)	\$10
6	-	Nikon camera set (includes lens, bag)	\$15
7	561-564	Phonic ear hearing enhancement (includes four units and charger)	\$5
8	1955 C	Plantronics cordless telephone headset unit (large)	\$10
9	-	Plantronics cordless telephone headset unit (small)	\$5
10	609	Sharp adding machine	\$1
11	-	Badge maker (includes pin backs, metal inserts)	\$2
12	-	Metal wire standing brochure rack	\$2
13	-	Vinyl canopy (includes side, poles, stakes)	\$5
14	-	Garment rack	\$2
15	-	Wooden hand-made mailbox slots	\$5
16	-	Wooden reptile cage (large)	\$15
17	-	2 Wooden dinosaur puzzles	\$1
18	-	Wooden eagle cutout on plywood	\$2
19	-	Hummingbird wind sock garden decoration	\$1
20	-	Ceramic eagle figurine	\$1
21	-	Metal and wood eagle figurine	\$2

22	-	Wooden painted duck carving	\$1
23	-	Oak chest 3ft x 2ft	\$15
24	-	Wooden letters spell "Earth" "Sky" "Water" w/plastic flower pot	\$1
25	312	Bushnell 7x35 binoculars	Scrap
26	796	Bushnell 7x25 binoculars	Scrap
27	-	Bushnell 7x35 binoculars	Scrap
28	-	2 Wooden hanging file folder holders on casters	Scrap
29	-	3 Metal hanging file folder brackets	Scrap
30	-	2 Rolls of laminating film with metal core	Scrap
31	-	Metal Ash bucket	Scrap
32	-	Small wooden book shelf	Scrap
33	-	Green metal bucket	Scrap
34	-	Wooden Evergreen tree decoration	Scrap
35	-	General store sign	Donate *
36	-	Wall mounted poster holder	Donate *
37	-	Large ceramic decorative pitcher	Donate *
		* sign and poster holder being donated to Geauga Historical Society	
		* decorative pitcher being donated to Geauga Lyric Theater Guild	

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to approve the items be declared surplus as presented.

Mr. Mucci seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

**RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION, RESOLUTION NO. 5-14**

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to enter Resolution No. 5-14, honoring Jim Patterson into record:

**RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION**

**Resolution No. 5-14**

Honoring

**James "Jim" Patterson**

**WHEREAS**, James "Jim" Patterson faithfully served on the Board of Park Commissioners from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013;

**WHEREAS**, Jim Patterson has been dedicated to the mission and values of Geauga Park District demonstrated through his thoughtful and insightful leadership, and serving as board president in 2012 and 2013;

**WHEREAS**, Jim Patterson demonstrated his commitment to Geauga Park District by serving as a volunteer on the records commission and Geauga People for Parks levy committee;

**WHEREAS**, Jim Patterson helped drive the establishment of the Chip Henry Institute for Outdoor Adventure in memory of Probate/Juvenile Court Judge Charles “Chip” Henry for the purpose of connecting young people with nature;

**WHEREAS**, Jim Patterson helped drive improvements for Geauga Park District by supporting the following Park District projects and programs:

- Geauga Park District’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations
- Inaugural Caveman Crawl 5-K Trail Run in The West Woods
- Preservation of Pinebrook Preserve
- Award Winning Covered Bridge on Maple Highlands Trail – South
- Expansion of the Frohring Meadows Wetlands
- Geauga County Special Needs Youth Fishing Derby in collaboration with local Rotarians
- Chip Henry Institute for Outdoor Adventure Summer Camps

**WHEREAS**, Jim Patterson demonstrated his commitment to the Park District mission by approving the initiation of the Park District 20-year Strategic Plan to insure the continuity of the Park District, providing the opportunity for the citizens of Geauga County to enjoy and appreciate the Park District resources now and in the future;

**WHEREAS**, Jim Patterson is to be commended for his dedication, loyalty and valuable contributions to Geauga Park District;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Geauga Park District Board of Commissioners, its staff and volunteers extend their gratitude to Jim Patterson for his superior leadership and upholding the mission of this vital resource.

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Mary Ruth Shumway  
President, Board of Park Commissioners

Mr. Mucci seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

Mrs. Shumway and Mr. Mucci requested they be notified when the flag poles at Chickagami and Headwaters Park are equipped and flying flags. John Ralph added that he will approach Judge Grendell to request a donation of the flags.

Mrs. Shumway made a suggestion to Paige Orvis, Marketing Director, that the Park District consider a Memorial Day event in the Parks.

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Mucci seconded the motion and after voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0.

Mr. Mucci	Yes
Mrs. Shumway	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

**POST-ADJOURNMENT DISCUSSION**

John Augustine inquired as to whether the Board was addressing Questions from the Public. The Board invited Mr. Augustine to address the Board. Mr. Augustine suggested that the Park District engage members of the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society (CVAS) for input and discussions regarding the renovation of the Nassau Observing Station. Mr. Young confirmed that members of CVAS are part of the Technical Advisory Group and have been included in renovation discussions. Mrs. Shumway also suggested speaking with the Lowell Observatory, in Arizona, regarding their operation. Mr. Augustine inquired as to whether public input would be included in the planning process. Mr. McCue advised that a survey of county and educational leaders has been conducted and other broad county surveys are planned. Mr. Mucci confirmed that this information will be reviewed at Board Meetings.

Mr. Augustine also questioned the focus on sports in the Parks. The Board clarified that the proposed recreational amenity additions to the Parks are for use by Park visitors, not for organized sporting leagues. Mr. Young and Mr. Oros expanded, stating these additions are in locations that are already being maintained, and that the Park District Natural Resource Management Department has and will continue to be included in meetings to insure there are no negative impacts to the natural environment.

Mrs. Shumway reported that she will be contacting the Ohio National Guard regarding the possibility of utilizing their night vision goggles for the future Park District Coyote Howling Program. There may be a minimal fee for this program for the goggle rental.

There were no further discussions.

**SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE**

It is declared that notification of this meeting and any business conducted therein by the Geauga Park District Board of Commissioners was in compliance with Ohio's Sunshine Laws.

Respectfully submitted,

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John Oros, Interim Deputy Director

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Mary Ruth Shumway, President