

MINUTES - Revised

Preservation Parks of Delaware County

October 9, 2013 – 2:00 P.M.

Hogback Ridge Preserve

2656 Hogback Road, Sunbury, Ohio

ATTENDEES: John Bader, Dan Boysel, Bruce Ruhl, Rita Au, Frank DiMarco, Sue Hagan, Saundra McBrearty, Ted Miller, Rich Niccum, Dennis Welch, Todd Younkin

GUESTS: Marci Bird, Rich Bradley, Rowland Smith, Amy Tovar, Dan Troth

The meeting was called to order by B. Ruhl at 2:02 P.M.

Review of Minutes. The Minutes from the September 12, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Hearing no changes or amendments, D. Boysel moved to approve the Minutes as submitted; J. Bader seconded. The motion was approved. B. Ruhl moved and J. Bader seconded to approve the Minutes of the October 9, 2013 meeting with the additions as indicated in red in the Executive Session section.

Review of Monthly Budget Report. The budget report for the month of September was reviewed and J. Bader moved to approve the expenditures as submitted. D. Boysel seconded. The motion carried. D. Boysel asked what percent of the budget is expended for education. R. Niccum estimated the percentage to be approximately 7.5 percent.

R. Au presented Resolution #285, accepting the levy receipts for 2014. D. Boysel moved to accept the amount of $3,709,794, in levy receipts for 2014, as estimated by the Delaware County Auditor’s office. B. Ruhl seconded. The resolution was adopted.

During the review of the monthly budget report, R. Au noted that $8,000 was classified incorrectly and was debited from the wrong account. Consequently, the Auditor’s office moved $8,000 from the Services and Charges account to the Materials and Supplies Account. This left a small amount in Services and Charges for the remainder of the year. Therefore, R. Au presented a resolution to transfer $15,000 from the Contingency account to the Services and Charges account. D. Boysel moved to approve the transfer of $15,000 from Account 590, Contigency, to Account 530, Services and Charges, effective immediately. B. Ruhl seconded. Resolution #286 was approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. M. Bird offered information about Professor Leaky at The Ohio State University who could assist with conducting and/or developing a user survey, especially one which would guage the long-term impact of children in the parks. Additionally Professor Drobney could offer input as to sustainability of park aspects.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Professional Leave Requests. At a cost of $35 per person, Frank DiMarco, Chris Roshon, and Todd Younkin requested to attend the Community Wildlife Cooperative Conference at The Ohio State University. D. Boysel moved and J. Bader seconded to approve the request.
2. D. Troth presented information regarding the historic Cellar cabin which is being removed at the development site at the intersection of Home Road and St. Rt. 315. Mr. Troth has been salvaging the historic structures and reported that R. Au was allowing the timbers from the house to be stored in the barn at the Gallant Farm Preserve. He presented a proposal to Preservation Parks for erecting the cabin on Preservation Parks property. The proposal included only the framework and was for a cost of $47,000. The Commissioners thanked him for his presentation and stated they would not make a decision at this meeting.
3. Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Program. J. Bader asked about the cost to Preservation Parks of participating in this program; he stated it was a great way for local agencies to coordinate. R. Niccum reported that there would be no charge to the Park District, other than staff time and use of facilities. The program is coordinated by The Ohio State University Extension Service, and the charge to the participants could be up to $150.

REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Construction Projects. T. Miller reported that the development of Shale Hollow Preserve is nearing completion. Palmetto Construction is finished and we are awaiting the installation of the utilities, as well as a few finishing touches from PPD staff. He also reported that the new restroom facility at Blues Creek Preserve is in the planning and design stages. Schorr Architects has been engaged for the project, which will be constructed in 2014. Miller also reported that he will be submitting a variance for the sanitary wetland to the Delaware County Health District. This is a request that they monitor the wetland for the restroom at BCP instead of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). This change in oversight was requested by the OEPA.
2. Update on HR Manager Search. T. Younkin reported that 80 resumes had been submitted and that he and R. Au had selected seven applicants to interview and had completed those interviews, with a second step in the interview process to be a “meet and greet” with the management team of the top candidates. The goal is to have the new person in place by December 2013.
3. Recap of OPRA Park Section Fall Forum. R. Au reported that the Forum ran smoothly and that Preservation Parks’ staff and facilities received many favorable comments from attendees. Au read a very complimentary thank you note from Don Schmidt.
4. Shale Hollow Preserve Opening Date. R. Au reported that due to the delay in installing the utilities to the site that the opening would need to be delayed and suggested November 16 or December 8 as alternative dates. The general consensus was that the later date would be better, in order to allow as much time as possible for the utilities to be finalized.

EXECUTIVE SESSION. At 3:34 P.M., B. Ruhl moved to convene an Executive Session for the purposes of ~~discussing~~ considering potential land acquisition and for reviewing employment action for the executive director search. D. Boysel seconded. At 4:07 P.M., B. Ruhl moved to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the General Session. J. Bader seconded. Both motions were approved.

D. Boysel moved to hire, pending approval of contract, the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) to conduct the executive director search. J. Bader seconded the motion. During discussion it was stated that the proposal from OPRA included a three week process to interview members of the PPD staff. The motion was approved.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 14, 2013, at 1:00 P.M. at Hogback Ridge Preserve.

D. Boysel moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 P.M. J. Bader seconded. The motion carried.