



## MINUTES

Preservation Parks of Delaware County  
November 14, 2013 – 1:00 P.M.  
Hogback Ridge Preserve  
2656 Hogback Road, Sunbury, Ohio

ATTENDEES: John Bader, Bruce Ruhl, Rita Au, Frank DiMarco, Sue Hagan, Sandra McBrearty, Ted Miller, Rich Niccum, Kara Spriggs, Mary Van Haaften, and Dennis Welch

VISITORS: Jim Bargar, Marci Bird, Amy Tovar, Dan Troth

The meeting was called to order by B. Ruhl at 1:02 P.M.

Review of Minutes. The Minutes from the October 9, 2013 meeting were reviewed. B. Ruhl moved that the wording under Executive Session be changed from "...moved to convene an Executive Session for the purposes of discussing potential land acquisition and the executive director search" as submitted, to "...for the purpose of considering potential land acquisition and the purpose of reviewing employment action for the executive director search." J. Bader seconded. The Minutes were approved as amended.

The Minutes from the October 18, 2013 meeting were reviewed. After review, B. Ruhl moved and J. Bader seconded to approve the Minutes as submitted. The motion carried.

Review of Monthly Budget Report. K. Spriggs presented the budget report for the month of October 2013. After review, B. Ruhl moved to approve the expenditures as presented; J. Bader seconded. The motion carried.

### Public Participation

Marci Bird: 1. questioned when and where the executive director job opening would be posted. B. Ruhl reported that the description was still under development, but that it would be posted soon.  
2. opined that Preservation Parks should not be the entity to save the Cellar cabin, 3. thanked Sandra McBrearty for the opportunity to tour Orchard Oaks Preserve, and 4. encouraged the acquisition of adjoining land to Orchard Oaks Preserve

Amy Tovar expressed dismay regarding the amount of the education budget for Preservation Parks and requested that draft minutes be posted on the Preservation Parks web site.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Professional Leave. T. Younkin and Rita Au requested to attend a "Ballot Workshop" to be presented by OPRA on December 10, 2013 at Highbanks Metropark. Cost would be \$40 for both attendees. The request was approved.
2. Community Park Improvement Grant Program. R. Au presented Resolution #287, the recommended projects to be funded for 2014, as follow:

Concord Township	<b>\$36,057.62</b>	Ballfield improvements, including additional parking, and backstops on three fields
Harlem Township	<b>14,000.00</b>	Extend Del-Co water line into the community park for installation of drinking fountain
Oxford Township	<b>6,091.42</b>	Install two (2) five-row bleachers and purchase two (2) safety enclosure kits for current bleachers; purchase one ADA recycled plastic picnic table
Village of Galena	<b>24,552.66</b> (total)	
	15,375.00	Purchase park and trail signs for all parks
	6,000.00	Purchase and install new light pole and light for Ruffner Park ball field
	3,177.66	Purchase four (4) picnic tables
<b>TOTAL AWARDS</b>	<b>\$80,701.70</b>	

Commissioner Ruhl asked how much was set aside for the program. R. Au reported that \$100,000 is allocated each year for the CFIG program. Commissioner Bader asked how the remaining, unallocated, funds were utilized. Au reported that it went back into the general fund. Since 2001, \$798,048.85 has been disbursed to other governmental entities within Delaware County to assist with various park projects. B. Ruhl moved to adopt Resolution #287; J. Bader seconded. The resolution was approved.

3. Hotel Payment. K. Spriggs requested approval to pay for the hotel costs incurred by R. Au during the OPRA Fall Forum on October 6 and 7, 2013. Au had stayed at the hotel to be on hand as a liaison for participants if necessary. Spriggs reported the total cost would not exceed \$225. B. Ruhl moved to approve expenses for the hotel costs for Director Au during the Fall Forum in an amount not to exceed \$225. J. Bader seconded. The motion carried.

## REPORTS

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Construction Projects. T. Miller reported that utilities were still absent from Shale Hollow Preserve despite repeated calls and emails to the companies, especially AEP. Miller also responded to a concern expressed during the previous meeting regarding the danger to trees from the proximity of limestone to them. His research had encountered no known negative impact.
2. Update on HR Manager Search. R. Au reported that Tony Benishek, formerly with Net Care, had accepted the position and would be starting employment with Preservation Parks on Dec. 3.
3. Shale Hollow Preserve Opening. R. Au reported the December 8, 2013 had been selected as the opening date for the park. The park would be open to the public at 1:30, with ribbon-cutting ceremony at 2:00.
4. OPRA Fall Forum Communication. R. Au read congratulatory and complimentary correspondence from Forum attendees.
5. Cellar Cabin Update. Dan Troth presented a proposal for the reconstruction of the Cellar cabin. No action was taken.

6. Norfolk Southern Railroad Update. T. Younkin reported that the contractor working on the railroad adjoining River Run Preserve had trespassed onto park property and had caused significant damage. R. Au reported that she, T. Younkin and D. Welch had met with Ross Long, Attorney at Law, to discuss the trespass what actions to be taken. Long sent a letter to the railroad expressing the need to rectify any and all damage which they had caused.

EXECUTIVE SESSION. At 2:47, B. Ruhl moved to convene an executive session for the purpose of considering potential land acquisition and the purpose of reviewing employment action for the executive director search. J. Bader seconded. Commissioner Ruhl moved to adjourn the Executive Session at 4:27; J. Bader seconded. Both motions carried.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 12, 2013 at 1:00, after the holiday recognition luncheon scheduled at 11:30 A.M. The venue was to be determined.

B. Ruhl moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:30; J. Bader seconded. The motion was approved.