

Regular Meeting with Work Session December 21, 2020

Call to Order: The Board met remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic per House Bill 197. The

meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Bob Becker, Board Chairperson.

Roll Call: Bob Becker, Cindy Lombardo, Jeff Deluca, Maureen McGinty, Art Gonzales, and Pat Norris

Excused Absence: Sandy Apidone

Also in Attendance: Park Director David Green, and approximately 14 attendees.

Work Session

Oviatt House:

Richfield residents Ms. Juanita Taylor and Ms. Serena Juchnowski presented a plan to register the Oviatt house on the National Park Services Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and requested board approval to submit an application. Application deadlines are January 15 and July 15, 2021. Ms. McGinty provided information on potential funding available if the registration application was successful.

2021 Budget:

Ms. McGinty introduced discussion on the 2021 budget, and commended Mr. Green on his work to keep costs down. She recommended the board approve the budget.

Website All-In Plan:

Mr. Becker stated the master plan had been added to the website. Ms Lombardo thanked Mr. Becker. She expressed a desire for a more detailed master plan and to have a strategic plan to support it.

Public Comment:

Comments from attendees included thanks to the RJRD Board, comments about the bond issue and the proposed use for the funds, comments in favor of saving the Oviatt house, and comments on the structural condition of Oviatt house.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by: Ms. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve the November 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Standing Committee Reports:

Governance: No report

Park Operations:

Mr. Deluca reported on storm damage to trees and fence lines and a new sign made for The Lodge since its renaming. He is working with Mr. Green on planning operational needs in 2021. The Historic Structure Stabilization Task Force sent an email requesting Garfield House be added to the list of structures. Mr. Becker requested discussion on Garfield House be placed on hold for Mr. Green to form a plan.

Park Services: No report

Capital Projects:

Mr. Gonzales reported bids were received for phase two of the dam project. The bids will expire January 11, 2021. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant awards will not be done until April 2021. Recommendation was to accept a bid prior to the January 11 deadline but commence work in May 2021 to determine if the LWCF grant application was successful.

Special Fundraising Committee Report:

Mr. Gonzales reported a volunteer grant writer resigned and that a posting was placed for additional volunteer help. Mr. Norris announced that RJRD was awarded \$140,000 from the state budget allocation process. Board members expressed appreciation to Mr. Norris and Ms. Lynn Richardson for their work.

Administration Report: No report

Park Director Report:

Mr. Green reported for Ohio Horseman's Council that bridle trails have been closed and they purchased and installed signs notifying visitors of the closure. Mr. Green reported for Friends of Crowell Hilaka that Amity house southeast porch work was completed and spoke briefly about the Historic Structure Stabilization Task Force. He said he would meet with FoCH members to work on the 2021 plans for the Invasive Species Task Force and other programming.

Volunteer Coordinator Report:

Ms. Czaplicki reported the Gund Well Bridge project is scheduled for completion. She thanked volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.

Treasurer Report:

Ms. McGinty reported on expenditures to date.

New Business:

Appreciation Proclamation for Trustee Mr. Pat Norris:

Mr. Becker read Resolution 06-2020, which was a proclamation to express appreciation and thanks to outgoing trustee Mr. Norris. Mr. Becker presented a plaque in honor of Mr. Norris' service to the RJRD.

MOTION by: Ms. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve Resolution 06-2020 A Proclamation To Express Appreciation and Thanks to Trustee Pat Norris, RJRD Founding Board Member

MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Legal Services Resolution:

Mr. Becker read Resolution 07-2020, which is an agreement for legal services with Walter Haverfield LLP. He summarized the agreement and associated costs.

MOTION by: Mr. Deluca and seconded by Ms. McGinty to approve Resolution 07-2020 A Resolution Authorizing the Chairperson and Treasurer to Enter Into an Agreement with Walter Haverfield LLP for Professional Legal Services

MOTION PASSED Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

2021 Budget Resolution:

Mr. Becker read Resolution 08-2020 to adopt the 2021 budget.

MOTION by: Ms. McGinty and seconded by Mr. Gonzales to approve Resolution 08-2020 A Resolution To Adopt the 2021 Budget

MOTION PASSED Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Questions / Comments from the Floor:

Comments from attendees included congratulations and thanks to Mr. Norris, questions on the cost for The Lodge signage, questions about the posting for grant writing volunteers, and questions on legal services.

Agenda & Action Items:

Mr. Becker announced a special meeting may be held on December 28, 2020 to consider bids for phase two of the dam project.

Adjournment:

MOTION by: Mr. Deluca and seconded by Ms. Lombardo to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Submitted by:

Mindy Remec, Administrative

Coordinator

Accepted by:

Bob Becker, Board Chairperson