



REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2017
(Meeting held at Richfield Masonic Hall)

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Bob Becker.

In Attendance: Jeff DeLuca, Bill Smith, Meg Slifcak, Ralph Waszak, Rich Fleming, Pat Norris
Administrative Coordinator, Judy Soroczak

WORK SESSION

Woodland Management Presentation

Adam Beichler presented the Woodland Management plan as required by the WRLC to protect our conservation easement. The plan base is a ten year woodland plan with 3 takeaways:

1. The Park has 128 acres of heavy invasive species needing control
2. The Park has 118 acres light invasive species needing control
3. There are 144 acres of heavy & 49 of light grape vine in need of management and control.
 - Invasive management will require a step down method of treatment with a trained crew that will likely require 4-5 years of very focused effort
 - The plan will be saved on the website
 - Positives: Park features mature hardwood forest which is rare in OH
 - Mr. Beichler will work with the RJRD to implement control and removal of invasives.

Caretaker Project - FoCH received a \$20,000 anonymous gift earmarked for this project. Ms Slifcak is still working on 3 bids for building windows and doors.

FMD Gund Hall - Proposal studying two phase proposal, Phase 1 will attempt to spend least amount of money to maximize income. Phase II will look at a larger state of the art facility for down the road. The proposal work will be completed by the end of January.

Gate Openers - Jeff DeLuca received three quotes for gates and openers for the Oviatt Gate and the gate for the Summer Barn.

Engineer - WWTP - DLZ has received RJRD comments on the contract. (DLZ is assisting in the bid, design and construction phase of the WWTP project). There are very few large WWTP providers in the area. The project will go out for bid once the contract is signed with DLZ.

Cell Phone Tower - American Tower has declined our requested option to utilize cell tower for our park use.

Gund Hall Rental Schedule - Rental rates were reviewed.

REGULAR MEETING

7:12pm

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Smith, second by Mr. DeLuca to approve minutes of November 27, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Motion Passed: Yes - DeLuca, Smith, Waszak, Slifcak, Becker No - Fleming, Norris - abstain

Standing Committee Reports

Governance Committee - Meg Slifcak

Presented final 2018 Budget proposal for approval.

RESOLUTION 28-2017 A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 2018 BUDGET

Moved by Mr. Norris, second by Mr. Smith

Roll Call Vote taken: Yes - Smith, Slifcak, Waszak, DeLuca, Norris, Becker No - Fleming

Resolution Passed

Ms.Slifcak distributed Capital Projects list for 2018 to the board.

RESOLUTION 29-2017 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RICHFIELD JOINT RECREATION DISTRICT TO ENTER AGREEMENT WITH FMD ARCHITECTS, INC., FOR GUND HALL RENOVATION STUDY

Moved by Ms. Slifcak, second by Mr. Norris

Discussion: Mr. Waszak expressed concern budget was not discussed, Ms Slifcak clarified the study will include two phases for a bare minimal mod rehab as phase one and consider space programming needs for Phase 2 which will be down the road. This information will be used as a fundraising goal.

Roll Call Vote taken: Yes - Unanimous

Resolution passed

Park Operations - Jeff DeLuca

- Shared roof report.
- Slate Roof has begun work on Amity and will continue weather permitting.
- Wood painting is in full swing for Kirby House windows.
- Weekend Warriors will be working on interior glass clean up in Gemini

Park Services: no report

Capital: no report

Fundraising - Pat Norris

RESOLUTION 30-2017

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RICHFIELD JOINT RECREATION DISTRICT TO APPLY FOR STATE OF OHIO CAPITAL GRANT FUNDING, 2018.

Moved by Mr. Norris, second by Ms. Slifcak

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote taken: Yes-Unanimous

Resolution passed

Treasurer Report - For October 2017 Attached

RESOLUTION 31-2017

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUMMIT COUNTY AUDITOR TO APPROVE TAX-ADVANCES--ANTICIPATED TAX REVENUES--FOR 2018

Moved by Mr. Norris, second Mr. Smith

Discussion: None

Voice Vote taken: Aye - Unanimous Abstain - Mr. Fleming

Resolution Passed

RESOLUTION 32-2017

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION TRANSFER FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE RICHFIELD JOINT RECREATION DISTRICT, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Mr. Norris, second Mr. Waszak

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote taken: Yes - Unanimous

Resolution Passed

RESOLUTION 32-2017

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Moved by Mr. Norris, second Mr. Waszak

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote taken: Yes - Unanimous

Resolution Passed

Special Orders: none

Unfinished Business:

RESOLUTION 33-2017

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RICHFIELD JOINT RECREATION DISTRICT TO PURCHASE GATE OPENING DEVICES FOR THE OVIATT GATE AND THE SUMMER BARN ENTRANCES TO RICHFIELD HERITAGE PRESERVE.

Moved to pass by Mr. DeLuca, second by Mr. Norris

No Discussion

Roll Call Vote taken: Yes - Unanimous

Resolution Passed

New Business -

Mr. DeLuca to meet with electrical contractor to determine needs to get power back at Kirby & Hill Top buildings.

MOTION TO APPROVE GUND HALL RENTAL FEE RATES FOR 2018

by Ms. Slifcak Second by Mr. Norris.

Discussion: Slifcak said rates are competitive for the the 'as is' condition and will be adjusted as upgrades are made to the facility.

MOTION TO AMEND rates to offer use of fire place with a fee of \$25.00 to include firewood

by Mr. DeLuca, second by Mr. Norris

Voice Vote Taken to Amend: Aye - Unanimous Abstain - Mr. Fleming

MOTION PASSED

Voice Vote Taken for original motion: Aye - Unanimous Abstain - Mr. Fleming

MOTION PASSED

MOTION RENEW OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION membership with fee of \$300.00 for Level 1; to cover all Board Members and Administrative Coordinator by Mr. Norris, second by Mr. Deluca

Voice Vote taken: Aye - Unanimous

MOTION PASSED

Partner Reports -

- BTA - Pat Hayes thanked all volunteers for trail work this past year and watching over the trail.
- BWU - Professor Stanton introduced his associate Carrie Davis-Todd:
 - Hydro class on site; testing water quality in lakes, streams and wells, and erosion hazards in streams.
- FoCH - Report Attached
- OHC - Molly Eastwood reported the November bridle trail Clean Up Day was another successful and productive outing, also a \$9500.00 donation was received.
- OOE - Will be back on property working roads and culverts near the Last Chance site.

Announcements -

Thanks was given to Mr. Rich Fleming for his years and hard work on projects at the park and introduction to many valuable contacts. Mr. Becker announced the appointment of Sandy Apidone by the Richfield Township as the newest member of the RJRD Board for the term of 2018-2020.

Questions added for P. Norris

Comments -

Mayor Beshara inquired to the lighting at Gund Hall parking area. Mr. DeLuca advised it had been purchased and will be installed soon. The Mayor expressed her disappointment of Trick-or-Treat on the Trail not being held this year as it was a great event. She reminded the board resolution was passed for it to be held annually. Council person Healy offered suggestion to have resolutions ahead of time to avoid having entire resolutions read at time of meeting.

Agenda and Action Items:

January 8, 2018 Officer election, Organizational Resolution

**Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Norris, seconded by Mr. Waszak
Meeting Adjourned at 8:18pm**

Respectively Submitted by:

Judy Soroczak Date 1-8-18
Judy Soroczak, Administrative Coordinator

Accepted by:

Bob Becker Date 1-8-2018
Bob Becker, Chairman

***Abbreviations:**

- BTA - Buckeye Trail Association
- BW - Baldwin Wallace
- CVCC - Cuyahoga Valley Career Center
- CVNP - Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- EDG - Environmental Design Group
- MOU - Memorandum of Understanding
- OOE - Ohio Operating Engineers
- OHC - Ohio Horseman's Council
- RFQ - Request for Qualification
- WWTP - Wastewater Treatment Plant

Subject: Treasurer's report for October 2017

Our beginning total cash balance for the month of October 2017 was \$3,625,938.00. Total revenues for the month totaled \$4796.00; expenditures totaled \$21,096.00, leaving an ending total cash balance of \$3,609,639.00.

Detail is as follows:

General Fund Revenue totaled \$2,281.00, consisting of a State tax rollback of \$1,006.00 in property taxes, \$874.00 in cell tower income, \$105.00 of rental income and interest income of \$296.00.

General Fund Expenditures totaled \$12,796.00, consisting of a variety of expense items, the largest of which were \$5,105.00 in payroll expense, \$3,991.00 in repairs and maintenance (property), sewer repair and maintenance of \$1,666.00 and rubbish removal of \$1,035.00. The balance is made up of smaller items like utilities, office expense, computer equipment and supplies and payroll services. There are encumbrances of \$9,781.00 for insurance, legal services, utilities, payroll, office expense, sewer maintenance/repair, equipment, and miscellaneous charges that are known but not yet paid.

Revenue for the Capital Improvement Fund was \$-0-. Expenditures for this fund totaled \$5,050. Engineering services were \$2,113.00, legal services were \$1,550.00. Consulting services were \$848.00 and miscellaneous equipment purchases were \$539.00. There are encumbrances of \$7,131.00 in this fund for various contracts, consulting services and miscellaneous equipment purchases that are known about but not yet paid.

Revenue for the Bond Retirement Fund was \$2,515.00 from the state rollback. Expenditures for this fund were \$3,250.00 for legal fees related to the Annual Information Statement Filing for Investors, required for our outstanding bonds.

I have had continuing conversations with our Financial Adviser exploring the concept of refinancing our bonded debt. I have reported on this at previous board meetings. Our Financial Advisor continues to be encouraging in this regard. Revere Schools is in the process of refinancing their debt, issued this past Spring for \$65,000,000.00. Our first call date is the end of March, so we will proceed cautiously and with optimism, working toward a plan of how to further proceed during the first quarter of 2018, exploring the value of obtaining a credit rating along the way and exploring the interest in our debt of local banks, as well as the bond market.

Friends of Crowell Hilaka
Report to the Richfield Joint Recreation District
Monday, December 11, 2017

Invasive Plant Removal (Work Plan):

- Lynn Richardson, Sandy Norris, Nancy Kanik, Susan Czaplicki, Rob Richardson, Louise Pilz, and Mary continue to clear Barberry throughout the preserve.
- Beth Sanderson is organizing a round table for a variety of native plant restoration professionals Saturday, January 6th. She hopes members of the RJRD Board are able to join the first meeting.

Trails Monitors (Work Plan):

- Jenny Austin will be reaching out to the volunteers who attended the Hike and Help event after the holidays to coordinate trail monitoring for 2018.
- Barb Starr and other FoCH volunteers continue to clean leaves off the trails.

Fence Followers (Work Plan):

- Weekend Warriors tackled more trees, scrubs, and vines along the fence Saturday, November 25th and Saturday, December 2nd.
- There are three to four fallen trees along Oviatt Road fence that need to be cut down off the fence.
- Rob Richardson has noticed patches in the fence along the north boundary have been re-cut. He has passed this concern on to Bob Becker and Jeff DeLuca to follow up.

Kirby House Preservation:

- Plywood to protect the windows (approved at October 23rd RJRD Meeting) has cut and painted. We will be installing over the next week. The materials will be removed from the Gund Hall dining room by Thursday, December 14th for the Boy Scouts.

General:

- Sandy Norris and other volunteers continue to clean and refill the latrines and empty the trash.
- FoCH members continue to support Weekend Warrior projects as well as other projects at the park throughout the week.

Presentations:

- We have cancelled our December meeting, but will reconvene in January (3rd Tuesday)
- We are presenting *Kirby History* at Richfield Library on Wednesday, January 10th (free and open to the public)

Fund Development:

- FoCH Annual Christmas Cookies Sale brought in over \$2,000.00. Funds raised will go towards our general fund which allows us to take on projects like the signs, providing maps, and other small repairs at the park.
- We received two generous donations: \$20,000 (\$20,000 to be allocated towards the Caretaker House/Park Office project) and \$500 (not earmarked). Both donors asked to be anonymous.
- Sunday, January 7th, FoCH is hosting an alumni sing and share. Much of fundraising is about building and maintaining relationships. We hosted a sing and share at the Kirby Birthday Party and it was very well received.

Thank you to the RJRD Board and Richfield Residents for a wonderful 2017. The spirit of collaborative partnership has allowed us to accomplish so much. Looking forward to working with the RJRD board and community in 2018!

