

**Work Session &
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 12, 2015

*(Meeting Held at the Village of Richfield Town Hall,
Village Council Chambers)*

WORK SESSION SPECIAL MEETING

Call to Order:

The Special Meeting was Called to Order at 6:03 p.m. by the Board's Chairperson Mr. Floyd Ostrowski. Roll Call was taken by Administrative Assistant Mrs. Bluso Rogers.

In Attendance:

Ms. Kelly Clark
Mr. Bob Lucas
Mr. Ralph McNeerney
Mr. Pat Norris
Mr. Floyd Ostrowski
Ms. Donna Skoda *(Not Present)*
Mr. Bill Taylor *(Not Present)*

Also in attendance:

Mr. William Hanna, Board Legal Counsel

Mayor Bobbie Beshara
Mr. Mike Lyons, Village Councilperson
Mr. Roger Swan, Village Councilperson

Mr. Joe Leslie, Western Reserve Land Conservancy *(Not Present)*
Mr. Kendrick Chittock, Western Reserve Land Conservancy *(Not Present)*

Mrs. Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrative Assistant

Members of the Village of Richfield Parks & Recreation Board:

Ms. Theresa Kovak
Ms. Dawn Keske, Chairperson of Village Parks & Recreation Board
Ms. Barb Lanford, Village Council Park Board Representative
Ms. Ruth Jocek, Village of Richfield Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Alex Burlotos
Ms. Ellen Daniels

Others in Attendance:

Ms. Lucia Hanigosky, FOCH
Ms. Lynn Richardson, FOCH

Mr. Ostrowski welcomed all in attendance and everyone introduced themselves. Village Parks & Recreation Board graciously expressed their appreciation and thanks for the meeting. It was explained that RJRD Board wants to garner assistance and utilize the Park Board's experience since both Boards have the same mission. Both Boards were in consensus that there is no competition because each Board has their own mission. Both Boards are working together for the "Richfields" and both will consider recreation center type activities.

For the benefit of the Village Parks & Recreation Board, a brief explanation of the RJRD Board's activities since their first meeting July 10, 2014.

1. Bond Levy and Operating Levy were passed.
2. Two (2) separate PSA (Purchase & Sale Agreements for Clean Ohio and Non Clean Ohio Properties) were negotiated and executed.
3. Clean Ohio Grant Application
4. Conservation Easements
5. Funding Limitations and Challenges applicable to the new District

Historic information was shared regarding the property; i.e. there is no other recreation area similar to this property in the country since it includes educational programs, museums, and passive and active activities. Due to the ownership history of the property, it has been virtually untouched or changed for 200 years. To that point, the Kirby Mill is on the National Historic Registry.

A map of the property was displayed that depicted the one-third area for Clean Ohio and the two-third area for WRL (Western Reserve Land Conservancy District). RJRD confirmed the existence of the conservation easements but also emphasized that there was flexibility in the application of those easements. Horseback riding can occur between passive and active areas and move between the easements.

The RJRD faces financial challenges due to low operating funds but remains optimistic that money could be raised through business leases and fund raising. BAN (Bond Anticipation Notes and TAN (Tax Anticipation Notes) are in the process of being implemented and there is a high probability that the BAN will cover the purchase price of the property (\$5.5M) for now and the operating funds would be \$80K or half of the anticipated tax levy.

The District does not own the property yet. It was purchased through the partnership with WRL from GSNEO (Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio). The property will transfer to RJRD sometime the second and third quarter of 2015. Specific dates will be communicated once they are known.

The 2015 meeting schedule for the Village Parks & Recreation Board is the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. For the month of January, RJRD meets weekly on Monday at 6:30 p.m. It is anticipated that the regular meeting schedule will be decreased to twice a month; second and fourth Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

A Work Session Special Meeting between RJRD and VOR Parks & Recreation was scheduled for Monday, February 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Richfield Township Trustee in Charge of Parks and Recreation, Mr. Luther will be invited to this meeting.

MOTION made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Norris to adjourn the Work Session Special Meeting at 6:38 p.m.

DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Lucas (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), Ms. Skoda (Not Present) and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order:

The Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 6:40 p.m. by the Board's Chairperson Mr. Floyd Ostrowski followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was taken by Administrative Assistant Mrs. Bluso Rogers.

In Attendance:

Ms. Kelly Clark
Mr. Bob Lucas
Mr. Ralph McNerney
Mr. Pat Norris
Mr. Floyd Ostrowski
Ms. Donna Skoda
Mr. Bill Taylor (*Not Present*)

Also in attendance:

Mr. William Hanna, Board Legal Counsel

Mayor Bobbie Beshara
Mr. Mike Lyons, Village Councilperson
Mr. Roger Swan, Village Councilperson

Mr. Joe Leslie, Western Reserve Land Conservancy *(Not Present)*
Mr. Kendrick Chittock, Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Mr. Keith McClintock, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Mrs. Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Lucia Hanigosky, FOCH
Lynn Richardson, FOCH
Jeff Campbell, FOCH
Molly Eastwood, Summit OHC
Cynthia McWilliams, Summit OHC
Judy Soroczak, FOCH
Danielle Soroczak, FOCH
Greg Schrank
Karen Beres, OHC
Niki Balogh
Sean McAllister
Ken Bowman
Meg Slifcak

Business:

1. Approval of Minutes:

Monday, January 5, 2015 Special Meeting (Organizational) & Regular Meeting

Dispensing with the formal reading of the minutes, the following action was taken.

MOTION made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. McNerney to approve the January 5, 2015 Organizational Special Meeting followed by the Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Lucas (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), Ms. Skoda (Yea) and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)

2. Committee Reports:

a. Communications Committee, Chairperson Ms. Clark

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. and one of the agenda items is to discuss the public forum process to gather public input on property uses.

b. Volunteer Resources Committee, Chairperson, Ms. Skoda

No report. The next meeting is January 15, 2015.

c. Facilities and Programming Committee & Property Acquisitions Sub-Committee, Chairperson, Mr. Lucas

There were no meetings. There will be a follow-up meeting with WRL regarding title transfer and conservation easement discussion tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2015. Mr. Lucas met with Richfield Township Zoning Inspector to determine any required zoning forms to repair trails and current fencing. No zoning applications were required to repair the existing fencing and trails.

- Clean Ohio Grant Sub Committee, Chairperson, Ms. Donna Skoda
Mr. Chittock reported that on Wednesday, January 7, 2015 walked through the property with GSNEO and was given a set of keys (55) for the property. There was no press release. The Board stressed that WRL needs to keep property security in mind. No report.

Another walk through is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2015 with WRL and the Clean Ohio Grant Committee beginning at 2:00 p.m. Attendees representing the RJRD are: Mayor Beshara, Mr. McNerney, Mr. Norris and Ms. Clark.

d. Finance & Budget Committee, Chairperson Mr. Norris

D and O (Director and Officers) Insurance would be inexpensive if bundled with the property and casualty insurance. The OPRA (Ohio Parks & Recreation Association) was the only one to provide a quote for the insurance in 2014. The matter is still being pursued.

Mr. Norris introduced Resolution #01-2015, A Resolution to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures for the 2015 calendar year. The resolution represented a 2015 budget and it would get modifications throughout the year. The matter was tabled in order for the Board's Legal Counsel to review.

It was noted that Mr. Dennis Ham from Countryside Conservancy is a good contact for contracts.

3. Unfinished Business:

a. Appreciative Inquiry Workshops

Ms. Chris Williams is an organizational facilitator and was contacted regarding the Appreciative Inquiry Program. Ms. Williams volunteered to devote 3-4 hours to facilitate a public forum to gather ideas for the property. More discussion on the matter will continue.

b. Caretaker Report

The GSNEO Caretaker will be on the property until Friday, January 16, 2015. Mr. Polo has no interest to serve on the RJRD Board or serving as a caretaker for RJRD.

Regarding property maintenance and repairs, it was reported that the Operating Engineers indicated their interest in assisting once the property has transferred from WRL and it was noted that the OE did work on the dams in the past.

c. Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Conference, Sandusky, Ohio

The Board discussed the number of board members attending.

MOTION made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Mr. Norris to approve two (2) board members to attend the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association Conference held in Sandusky, Ohio February 1 through 4, 2015 including lodging expenses.

DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Lucas (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), Ms. Skoda (Yea) and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)

4. New Business:

Mr. David Mitchell, Centerville Mills Presentation.

Mr. Mitchell was not in attendance.

Memorial Day Event

Chairperson challenged the Board to prepare for a big event on the property that will open up the area to the residents. Mr. Ostrowski stated that the deadline for the event would be Memorial Day and would like the Board to include and coordinate all the other Memorial Day Community Events with the RJRD property opening; e.g. Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast.

The Board briefly discussed the implementation strategies and it will be further discussed in the upcoming Communications/Volunteers Committee Meeting on January 15, 2015. It was recognized that this would be a “soft opening” since all uses and repairs would be completed. The intention is to open the property and keep it open while the other repairs and renovations continue.

Draft Budget

Chairperson distributed a very preliminary draft of a budget. Based on WRL renovation and improvement costs, it depicted the total amount of revenue anticipated with potential costs associated for property acquisition and capital improvements. There was no correlation between this document and the appropriations resolution for 2015. The data will be used for future discussions.

RTWP Zoning

Mr. Swan stated that he had a meeting with the Zoning Inspector from Richfield Township. He re-stated briefly the zoning regulation concerns as they apply to the property.

- a. If the Board can identify an immediate and new for the property, a BZA application is required and it is up to the BZA to determine if it could be a permitted use.
- b. The Board can also apply for a new zoning district and modification to the existing language. Changes to the Zoning Regulations may be filed by the RJRD Board or by the RT Board of Trustees. The RJRD Board does have legal standing on the matter.

5. Comments from the Floor

Cleveland Water Department Water Tower Location

On behalf of the Mayor, Mr. Swan requested the Board to consider locating the water tower on a portion of the property. The tower would be located on the right at the entrance of the Village's property. The Board briefly discussed the pros and cons; i.e. revenue received versus property lost. Cleveland Water would lease the property generating a nominal receipt of additional revenue to the District. The color of the tower was negotiable.

Mr. Swan will report back with a more formal proposal after the Village's January 20, 2015 Water Tower Meeting with the public.

6. Action Items & Agenda Items for Next Meeting, December 22, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

- Information regarding changes to the bylaws and standing committees need to be forwarded to the Administrative Assistant who will disseminate the information to the Board of Trustees by January 19,
- An Executive Session will be included for the January 5, 2015 regular meeting to discuss the purchase of property per ORC 121.22(g), if necessary.
- Buckeye Trail.
- Water Tower.

- Public Input Process.

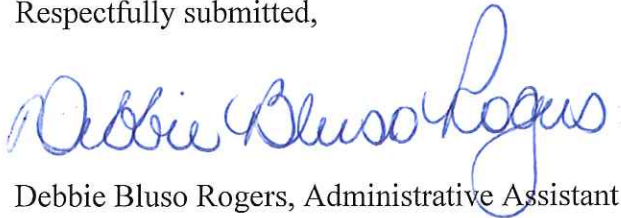
7. Executive Session:
Not required.

MOTION made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Mr. Taylor to adjourn at 7:31 p.m.



DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Lucas (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), Ms. Skoda (Yea) and Mr. Taylor (Yea)

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrative Assistant to RJRD Board


Richfield Joint Recreation District,
Chairperson
Richfield Joint Recreation District,
Secretary