



Regular Meeting
September 27, 2021

Call To Order: The Board met at the Lodge at Richfield Heritage Preserve. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Mark Robeson, Board Vice Chair.

Roll Call: Sandy Apidone, Maureen McGinty, Mark Robeson, Jeff Deluca, Art Gonzales

Excused absence: Anita Gantner

Also in attendance: Park Director David Green, Volunteer Coordinator Susan Czaplicki, and approximately 8 attendees.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by: Mr. Gonzales and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve the August 23, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION PASSED: Vote was taken by voice, which was unanimous.

MOTION by: Mr. Deluca and seconded by Mr. Gonzales to approve the August 30, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes.

MOTION PASSED: Vote was taken by voice, which was unanimous.

Work Session

Rental of the Lodge:

Mr. Robeson stated the board is considering two options for Lodge rentals. Hiring an event coordinator or hiring an exclusive caterer. Mr. Robeson asked for public comments regarding the rental of the Lodge.

Standing Committee Reports

Governance: no report

Capital Projects: Mr. Deluca stated the dam contractors started at the Upper Lake today. When the Upper Lake work is completed, they will begin work at the Lower Lake.

Ms. McGinty inquired why did they start on the Upper Lake? Mr. Deluca stated the gate closing mechanism needs to be on site. Ms. McGinty requested that the Board be updated weekly regarding the dam project. Mr. Green will update the Board.

Friends of Crowell Hilaka entered into a contract with NorthStar to repair the wheel pit. NorthStar will have a separate crew to work on the wheel pit, and FOCH will pay for the wheel pit repairs.

Fundraising/Advocacy: Mr. Gonzales stated a volunteer interested in helping with Grant Writing reached out to Susan Czaplicki. Ms. Gantner will follow up with the volunteer.

Administration Report: Mr. Robeson stated that Mindy Remec resigned, and David would temporarily take over the phone and email duties.

Park Director Report: Mr. Green

- Discussed erosion issues at High Lea and met with Meg Hennessey regarding a plan to address these issues.
- Met with Andy McDonnell from WRLC regarding properties that are available.
- Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Trails Team met twice to assess the park's trails
- Boating season ended on 9-26-2021
- Read the RHP Volunteer Coordinator report
- Read the Friends of Crowell Hilaka and Oviatt House Incorporated reports
- Stated the park entered into a contract with Shari Green on 9-16-2021. Ms. Green is a contractor, not an employee. Ms. Green will oversee the Lodge Instagram account and will have a dedicated email address.

Discussion regarding the Park Director's Report:

- Mr. Gonzales inquired about the status of Rising Valley. Mr. Deluca responded the Metroparks have not yet entered into a contract with Rising Valley. Discussion regarding if the park made the Cleveland Metroparks aware we are interested in the Metroparks' help.
- Ms. McGinty inquired how RHP is advertising park events.
- Discussion regarding the amount to charge for deposits, refundability of deposits, etc. Mr. Robeson stated a Lodge marketing plan would be helpful.

Treasurers Report: Ms. McGinty read a treasurer's report.

New Business:

Mr. Robeson stated Ms. Gantner contacted the Township and Village regarding American Relief Plan funds. Ms. McGinty stated people turned to the parks during shutdown, expressed her gratitude that Anita contacted the Township and Village, and she stated the park is deserving of the funds.

Mr. Robeson stated Ms. Gantner is working with Bill Hanna regarding an exclusive contract for Lodge rentals.

Questions/Comments from the floor:

- Karen Smik inquired about marketing the Centennial event.
- Discussion regarding sending a regular listing of RHP events to the Richfield Times that they could publish on a no-fee basis as a small blurb in the paper.
- Richfield resident Mike Selig asked the Board to reconsider the use of the main access road into the park for horses. Discussion regarding making an exception for one resident. Ms. McGinty suggested a special use permit for Mr. Selig. Mr. Robeson inquired if the Board could study this issue and put it on the October Board meeting's agenda.
- Pat Norris stated Richfield Village Council will be taking the park's request for American Relief Plan Funds under advisement at a future meeting.


Agenda & Action Items:

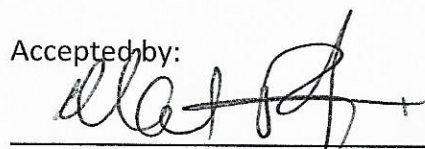
Mr. Deluca would like camping to be added as an agenda item for the next Board meeting.
Mr. Gonzales asked for an update regarding Rising Valley

Adjournment:

MOTION by: Mr. Gonzales and seconded by Ms. Apidone to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm.

MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous.

Submitted:

Susan Czaplicki, Volunteer Coordinator

Accepted by:

Mark Robeson, Board Vice Chair