



**Regular Meeting with Work Session  
December 16, 2019**

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

**Roll Call:** Bob Becker, Sandy Apidone, Jeff Deluca, Pat Norris, and Bill Smith

**Absent:** Meg Slifcak and Art Gonzales - excused absences

**Also in Attendance:** Administrative Coordinator Mindy Remec and 14 additional residents/attendees

**Work Session**

**Richfield Heritage Preserve (RHP) Branding / Mood Board:**

Ms. Christie Bell and Mr. Tony Bell gave a presentation on proposed branding for the Richfield Heritage Preserve. Ms. Bell said that it is important to come up with a consistent look, feel, and tone for the park to bring people in. She presented a mood board to demonstrate the feel of the park. She detailed the proposed logo and the reasonings for font choices and color palette. Mr. Bell commented that consistent branding and making it relevant on the local level is important. He said the brand is what people identify with and it is what makes people want to visit the park.

Mr. Deluca asked about design assistance for park signage. Additional comments from the floor included branding for other area parks and park systems, questions on the Board's process for selecting the logo moving forward, and branding coordination with the Friends group. Majority of the comments made and feedback of the logo were positive.

**Burgess & Niple - Water Wells:**

Mr. Deluca introduced the water well proposal from Burgess & Niple. He said there are issues that need to be worked through with Capital Projects. The board needs time to review the lengthy report and discuss what work can potentially be done in-house.

**2020 Budget:**

Mr. Becker introduced the proposed 2020 budget. The RJRD fiscal agent indicated the operating budget should not exceed \$232,000. The board discussed the line items in detail and where expenses can be reduced. The board concurred to reduce amounts budgeted for the following line items: health insurance; improvement of sites; advertising; garbage/trash removal; contracted services; machinery, equipment and furniture; and office supplies.

**Internet Drops:**

Mr. Becker said several solutions were explored for this issue. Bay Pointe Technology has worked with Spectrum on a solution to run hard line connections into Gund Hall and Kirby House. From that point, work may be done in-house to run lines from those connections to other locations. The cost to run the initial two lines is \$15,000. Spectrum would absorb \$8,000 and the RJRD would be responsible for \$7,000. Mr. Deluca asked if something could be added to the cell tower. Mr. Becker said that trees interfere with the connection.

## Regular Meeting

### Approval of Minutes:

November 25, 2019 Regular Meeting

**MOTION by:** Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve the November 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes as presented.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION:** NONE

**MOTION PASSED:** Vote taken by voice Yea, which was unanimous

### Standing Committee Reports:

**Governance:** No Report

### Park Operations:

Mr. Deluca reported end-of-season maintenance on mowers was done. He is receiving quotes for the fence project for action in January. He reported that the Ohio Operating Engineers has offered to take down the Oviatt House at no cost, reducing expenses by \$4,000. Mr. Deluca thanked all partner groups and volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.

### Park Services:

Ms. Apidone reported that Snow Bird Festival plans have been made and finalized for January 26, 2020. The program is being done by the Village of Richfield and Richfield Township and is being hosted by the Richfield Heritage Preserve for Richfield residents. Future plans are to set the date for the last Sunday in January.

### Capital Projects:

Mr. Smith reported the wastewater treatment plant is in its final phase of work and should be substantially complete in late January. Mr. Deluca reported FMD gave some insight on the Gund Hall bathroom renovation and he will meet with them in January. Plumbing issues are also being looked into. He also reported that Hartman Tree Service is scheduled to take down dead trees by the wastewater treatment plant before the new fence is put in.

**Special Fundraising Committee:** No Report

### Administration Report:

Ms. Remec updated trustees on ongoing office work and use agreements and rentals. She thanked Lynn Johnson for her hard work volunteering to clean the park office.

### Volunteer Coordinator Report:

Ms. Susan Czaplicki informed trustees of the volunteer projects completed at the park such as cleaning up storm-damaged trees, installing driveway marker poles, and splitting firewood. She thanked the RJRD Board members and all of the volunteers who made a difference in the park in 2019.

**Treasurer Report:**

**MOTION by:** Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. Smith to accept the revised budget numbers as discussed during the work session.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION:** NONE

**MOTION PASSED:** Vote taken by voice Yea, which was unanimous

Mr. Norris reported that the RJRD has been selected and endorsed as a priority project for the region by the committee for the Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce for the state capital budget allocation.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

**MOTION by:** Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve \$7,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund to improve internet connection for the security system

**FURTHER DISCUSSION:** Mr. Smith said that options had been looked through and this seems to be the least expensive solution. Ms. Apidone commented that as rental revenue increases these expenses may recoup some of these expenses.

**MOTION PASSED:** Vote taken by voice Yea, 4 Yea, 1 abstention

Mr. Smith introduced the briefing memo and changes to the resolution were confirmed.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve Resolution 16-2019 A Resolution Ratifying the Richfield Joint Recreation District's Application for State Budget Allocation

**FURTHER DISCUSSION:** Mr. Smith said that the application was nicely done and the presentation was professional and well received.

**MOTION PASSED:** Vote taken by voice Yea, which was unanimous

Mr. Becker said the Baldwin Wallace University would like to continue formal involvement with the park. Mr. Smith said this would allow the university exclusive use of Chagrin and the Coach House. RJRD would be obligated to bring the buildings up to occupancy and to do structural maintenance and repairs. The agreement is for a one-year term with five one-year renewal options. Ms. Apidone said they are giving back by helping with educational programming in the park.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Norris to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with Baldwin Wallace University

**FURTHER DISCUSSION:** None

**MOTION PASSED:** Vote taken by voice Yea, which was unanimous

Mr. Deluca asked for information on an encroachment issue. Mr. Becker provided an update on work being done by legal counsel to review surveys for the possible encroachment of a driveway and accessory building onto RJRD property. Mr. Smith commented that there is no legal risk to the RJRD.

**Partner Reports:**

**Friends of Crowell Hilaka:** Ms. Corey Ringle updated attendees on the Winter Wonders cookie sale, which had more than 300 attendees and netted more than \$5,000. Ms. Ringle reported progress on the Mill Fundraising Campaign, the Ohio History Connection Connection grant, and collection of FoCH volunteer hours data.

**Ohio Horseman's Council:**

Ms. McWilliams reported that "closed" signs by the summer barn will be put out within the next week. A \$500 donation was received for the summer barn roof project. Ms. Czaplicki thanked them for their work clearing the trails.

**Announcements:** None

**Questions / Comments from the Floor:**

Ms. Norris asked for more rental brochures for Gund Hall. Ms. Apidone said that more will be printed.

**Agenda and Actions Items:**

Mr. Deluca requested discussion on Rising Valley Park. Mr. Norris requested the Bylaws discussion and vote be on the next agenda.

Trustees briefly discussed the potential problems the delay of the Village's board appointment creates for the board and efforts to urge Village Council to announce their appointment.

**Adjournment:**

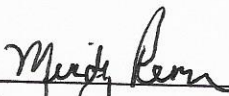
**MOTION by:** Mr. Deluca and seconded by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.


**FURTHER DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice Yea, which was unanimous**

Submitted by:

Accepted by:

  
Mindy Renec, Administrative  
Coordinator

  
Bob Becker, Board Chairperson