

PICKAWAY COUNTY

pickawaycountyparks.org

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PARK DISTRICT

Meeting 4th Thursday Monthly at Pickaway County Library meeting room.

The Public is encouraged to attend.

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Feb. 26, 2009

A. ROLL CALL Board members: P=Present A=Absent

Robert (Pete) Hartinger P Marty Delamatre P
Ken Temple P Ken Speakman P Bill Richards P
Executive Director-Secretary Charles Babb P
Secretary-Andi Humphries P
Treasurer-Auditor A
Webmaster-Michael Moore A

Guests: Dave Horn, Ohio Biological Survey-Calamus Swamp

B. Reading of previous month minutes: (approve/amend) by Andi Humphries; Motion by Ken Temple, Second by Marty Delamatre; motion approved.

Reading of special meeting minutes: (approve/amend) by Pete Hartinger; Ken Temple asked that the minutes record that the grant was hand delivered and receipted at the State office. Motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Marty, second by Bill Richards; motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKER: Pete Hartinger told Guest Speaker Dave Horn that due to the purchase of the railroad bed to Calamus Swamp, he felt it was important to hear about that area.

Dave said he is the "Conservation Chair" of the Columbus Audubon, a non profit chapter of the National Audubon Society. It is a completely volunteer organization. Dave is retired however still working.

Ada Burke donated the land to the society in 2000 to be used for conservation and education and as a refuge for wildlife—birds in particular.

The plan for developing the area has been: A parking lot, trail to the swamp, and a boardwalk which is $\frac{3}{4}$ complete. Dave said it may be completed this year with donated recycled planks.

There have been plans to have the whole area dedicated as a state natural area which would protect the property. That is in the discussion phase.

Dave's concerns are: vandalism, carelessness, litter, land use on surrounding areas and highway 104 widening or culvert replacing. He proposes that the two entities stay in touch with developments.

Pete expects that the trail will be developed and paved. Bill Richards asked about the concerns with the watershed, erosions and development west of highway 104. Both agreed these are not critical problems at the current time, but need to be monitored.

Pete asked about erecting a sign promoting the swamp, however Dave is concerned about vandalism. Ken Speakman told Dave about the Canal Walk on May 2. Ken Temple told Dave to contact him if he needs help with the planking and boardwalk project.

C. Financial status of Park District: Balance \$11,650.56 Ken Speakman reported there was no change in the Auditor's balance from the previous month although some bills had been approved for payment. It was noted that the forms have to be signed at a meeting before presented to the auditor for payment.

D. Charles' contact to be signed for him to be salaried Director-Secretary/Services. Charles drew up a revised contract as the previous one was for a full time position. This one will include field work beginning in February, 2009, and ending in October, 2009, \$500 per month for a total of a\$4,500. It can be terminated by either party at any time. Ken Speakman made a motion to accept the contract with Charles Babb, Ken Temple seconded the motion; motion carried. Charles asked if the board wanted him to look at the Water Trail Grant.

E Executive Director-secretary report, Charles Babb

1. Bills to be paid: Treasure of State of Ohio for previous audit \$35.41; Michael Moore, website \$38.50; Hummel and Plum Bill Richard's Bond \$130.00 and Marty Delamatre's Bond, \$250; ODNR Department of Natural Areas and Preserves \$100.

2. Interagency agreement to be signed (for EPA) was signed by Pete Hartinger at the board meeting. It will be taken to Chad Davies and Nate Green.

3. Set up meetings with mayors of towns on or near trails: This was suggested as a way to explain the trails that will be coming through the villages and towns.

4. Central Ohio Greenways Trail Forum to be held at Battelle Darby Creek Park on March 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Pete will be attending, if anyone else wants to go, let him know.

5. Pickaway Trail's encroachments and maps showing properties: Charles has a map that shows the properties and possible problems. It will be available for review after the meeting.

F. Unfinished business

1. On Jan. 23, Kenny Temple, Kenney Speakman, Charles Babb, Pete Hartinger and Michael Moore cleared the rest of trail to Calamus Swamp. They noted the work that Bill Richards had done to the area, and complimented him on that.

2. On Jan. 26, Charles and Pete met at County Commissioners office to meet also with Chad Davie and Nate Green. Topic-grant for the trail to New Holland (copy in office).

3. On Jan. 27, Bill Richards was sworn in as Park Commissioner. His term ends Dec. 31, 2010.

4. Darbyville Park has been added to the county park list on the Website by Michael Moore. He also added a wildlife trail that is open to the public.

G.. New Business

1. Pete Contacted Bob McCrady of Sunrise Rotary. Bob was told that their money donated to the park board would be used for improvement on the trail.

2. On Feb. 1, Pete attended Larry Harris' presentation about the canal at the Genealogical Library. Pete explained that the Park District has a 15 year lease with the State of Ohio

3. On Feb. 18, Kenny Temple, Charles and Pete attended the Tri-County Triangle Trail meeting in Chillicothe. The next meeting in March to be held in Fayette County. Ken Speakman said it is important to attend all of these meetings. Fayette County has been encouraged through these meetings to form a park board.

4. On Feb. 19, Kenny Temple and Pete attended the Pickaway County Sportsman's Club as invited speakers. They spoke for about 10 minutes. Kenny said there are about 250 members of the club from Pickaway and surrounding counties.

5. Name trails in county for future reference. Recommendations—Pickaway Trail for old Cincinnati and Muskingum Valley Railroad (East and West) and Canal Trail for old Ohio-Erie Canal (North and South). Pete suggested these names and Ken Speakman said the names represent what they are describing.

6. New office space for park board? Jay Wipple in charge. New address, 139 W. Franklin St. Ryan at the Commissioners office is checking on space. Ken Temple said it would be advantageous to have a place to lock up our documents as long as utilities are not an issue.

7. Contacts for possible help on clearing trails: Bob McCrady of Sunrise Rotary, Shannon Cherry of Sportsman's Club. Bill Richards said he has debris ready for a dump truck as long volunteers can fill it up. He also noted there is a Whiskey Switch by at the railroad around Spunkey Town that might be highlighted. Also, he asked for information on the land owners from the canal into town. Charles will check on these.

8. Martha Hitler Park status. Pete talked to Ace Elsea about the location of the parking lot and the railroad bed.

9. Next two months will invite Mark List (Kingston Pike Mound) or Terry Reed (Millport Canal Lock) to meetings.

10. Talk with Dave Horn about Calamus Swamp. (see above, Guest Speaker)

11. Canal Park Update. The Historical Society was given a copy of the Martha Hitler Park agreement to review. If the same type of agreement could be made with the society, the park board could check on state money.

H. Discussion, no more

I. Public Input, See Guest Speaker

J. Service hours this month

Charles had 45 hours, Marty had 3 January and 3 February, Pete had 25, Ken Temple had 20 and Ken Speakman had 12, Andi had 3

Volunteer hours for the month: Board Members 63

Volunteer hours for the month: Other Volunteers 48

K. Schedule of next meeting: Regular meeting time and place

L.. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.