

Cuyahoga Valley Communities Council

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 23, 2005

The Vice President, Dr. Kenzig, called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. at the Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium. A quorum was present.

Mayor Donald Robart of the City of Cuyahoga Falls welcomed the Council to his community.

Approval of Minutes of February 18, 2005 meeting

The motion was made by Mr. Whidden, seconded by Mr. Ford, and the minutes of the February 18th Council Meeting were unanimously approved and adopted.

Review of Financial Statement

The financial statement for February, 2005 was distributed and reviewed

Expansion of Council membership

Dr. Kenzig presented the Board's proposal to expand Council Membership to municipalities and school districts in the northern part of the Cuyahoga Valley (Brooklyn Heights, Cleveland, Cuyahoga Heights, Garfield Heights, Newburgh Heights and the school districts of Garfield Heights and Cleveland). After some discussion the motion was made by Mr. Holman, seconded by Mr. White, and it was unanimously adopted.

CVNP Special Event – May 7, 2005

Mr. Cipolletti and Mr. Hamm talked about the May 7th Special Event – a train ride from Independence to Peninsula on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. During the two hour ride through the Cuyahoga Valley, CVNP Superintendent John Debo will host the event and discuss various projects and activities that are being undertaken in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. This event is the first of three planned to highlight our local park systems. Similar events for Council representatives will be planned during the next year in the Cleveland Metroparks, and the Metro Parks Serving Summit County.

Report of the National Park Service

- Mr. Debo, reported that the **Cuyahoga Valley National Park** was listed as the third most visited National Park in the United States. He explained how this count is taken.
- The **United States Geological Survey** will continue to test water quality in the Cuyahoga River. It is an innovative technique that will help track the purity of the river and the watershed, thereby allowing for safer and better use of water activities in the park.
- The **Cuyahoga Valley Countryside Initiative Project** is moving ahead this year to establish four more properties which will offered for use as preserved heritage farms.
- In connection with the Countryside Initiative, Dennis Hamm announced the Farmer's Market in Peninsula will be open again this year.
- The project at the **Krejci Dump** site is set to begin this year. The CVNP has stressed the need to meet with officials in the affected communities and to keep them informed of progress and any potential problems, especially with the roads leading to the project. This should happen sometime this summer.
- **Road Assistance Program** - Funding for these annual grants has been limited by federal budget cuts this year, but communities are encouraged to still apply for the funds that are available. Previous road projects in Boston Township and at the Krejci Dumps site will be continued this year

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Report of the Cleveland Metroparks (Jim Kastelic)

- Phase One of the Mill Creek Greenway Trail will begin soon.
- The West Creek Preservation Project has been completed and plans are in works to convert this 300 acre area on Ridgewood Road in Parma into the Cleveland Metroparks system by January, 2006.

Report of the Metro Parks Serving Summit County (Susan Fairweather)

- Work on extending the **Towpath Trail** into Barberton has begun recently.
- Communities are working together with the Canal Initiative the **Towpath Trail** a reality.

Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, Dr. Kenzig adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE (Attendees shown in **boldface**)

Local Governments

Akron City	Patrick Gsellman	Thomas Long
Bath Township	Nancy Knauer	Karen Raccuia
Bedford City	Robert Hamilton	
Boston Township	Wesley Bergdorf	Martin J. Griffith
Boston Heights Village	Bill Gony	
Brecksville City	Edward R. Wolf	Arthur Zanutic
Cuyahoga Falls City	Gary G. Whidden	Eilert Ofstead
Fairlawn City	James A. Butler	
Hudson City		
Independence City	Ronald White	Barbara Ann Mack
Northfield Center Township	Mary K. Catalano	William R. Ford
Peninsula Village	Michael J. Kaplan	Charles Moyer
Richfield Township	David R. Wyatt	Shano Cica-Mraz
Richfield Village	Mike Lyons	
Sagamore Hills Township	Rose Mary Snell	James P. Hunt
Valley View Village	Mary Ann Drobnick	David Wingenfeld
Walton Hills Village	William L. Allen	Donald Kolograf

School Districts

Brecksville-Broadview Heights	Fred H. Holman	
Cuyahoga Heights	Stephen R. Kenzig	Kenneth A. Perk
Cuyahoga Valley Career Center	Roscoe Schlachter	Celina Roebuck
Hudson	Patricia Picard	
Nordonia Hills	John Schwartzhoff	Betty B. Klingenberg
Revere	Kevin Matowitz	Terry Snow
Woodridge	Marilyn Hansen	

Counties

Cuyahoga	John R. DeMuth	
Summit	Jaci Stein	Heidi Day

Park Units

Cleveland Metroparks	James M. Kastelic	Gary Ellsworth
Metro Parks, Serving Summit County	Keith D. Shy	Susan Fairweather
National Park Service, CVNRA	John P. Debo, Jr.	Dennis S. Hamm

Honorary Member

John F. Seiberling