

Meeting Minutes Part 2

- i. At the October 5, 2021 meeting Jack Madison requested that Poggemeyer Design Group begin to look at Phase 2 of the Catawba Trail project so discussions can begin with property owners.
- ii. The Catawba Group's scheduled discussion with the John Braun Park board has been postponed until September 30, 2021. Jack Madison is planning to meet with the Park Director sometime between September 29, 2021 and October 5, 2021.
- iii. Jack Madison, Mike Shadoan and Denny Patthoff met with Zachary Porter, ODOT District 2 Bike & Pedestrian Contact and Ben Cordes, ODOT District 2 Planner in Bowling Green on Wednesday August 18, 2021. The group agreed they would like to build a relationship and agreed to meet ~quarterly. The next meeting may be prior to a December 2021 ODOT meeting and then a second meeting in late January/early February 2022. The ODOT project to repave State Route 163 through Danbury Twp. will take place in September 2024. ODOT is amenable to increasing the width of the shoulder where possible to better accommodate pedestrians and bikes. ODOT noted that inside the Village of Marblehead, the village owns the right of way, and often villages are not willing/able to fund shoulder widening. The board discussed and agreed we should have a booth similar to the booth at the Marblehead Lions Club Perch Festival at the Oak Harbor Apple Festival on October 9 & 10, 2021.
- iv. Tim Bock and Harper Cromley have visited the Catawba Island Twp. trail location options and have created a sketch.
- v. At the July 6, 2021 meeting Jack Madison reported that the Catawba Advisory Group is ready to visit residents along the proposed trails to discuss right of way options. Jack also indicated that he talked to Mike Bassett and Mike is supportive of the trails. Jack would like to talk to Zachary Porter, ODOT District 2 Transportation Engineer regarding the ROW along State Route 53 through Catawba Island Twp. Mike Shadoan agreed to contact Zachary Porter to request a meeting to discuss both the repaving of State Route 163 project in Danbury Twp. and State Route 53.
- vi. The letter the Catawba Advisory Group requested to use to discuss right of way options for property owners along the proposed trails in Catawba Island Twp. has been approved.

a. Harder-Thorne Property in Oak Harbor

Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2022 – No discussion

- i. Vicki Rae Harder-Thorne joined the Park District March 5, 2021 meeting to discuss the vision she has for approximately 80 acres of property her family owns in Oak Harbor. Her vision includes non-chemical farming and conservation practices, education, research and local economy benefits. Her parents were founding members of the Black Swamp Bird Observatory and the property has birdwatching trails. Vicki has been working with the Central State University, the Nature Conservancy, Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association. Vicki is inquiring whether the Park District of Ottawa County would like to be part of this effort. Vicki lives in the Chicago area and will be in Ohio in April. It was suggested that we meet and possibly tour the property when Vicki is in Ohio in April.

ACTION: *Meet with Vicki Rae Harder-Thorne regarding her family's property in Oak Harbor when she is in Ohio in April.*

b. Friends of Ottawa County Parks (FoOCP)

Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2022 – Denny Patthoff voiced concern that the Park Board has not been able to schedule the quarterly meeting with ODOT. Gary Kohli noted that Jannah should be the contact/representative of the Park District with ODOT and others should not contact ODOT on our behalf. He also indicated that we need to be patient with ODOT as they develop their standing on creating multi-use trails in conjunction with state routes.

- i. At our March 1, 2022 meeting Denny Patthoff reported that a grant application for \$3,000 was submitted to the Ottawa County Community Foundation. Due to an error in the Friends' 501c3 status, the grant will be provided to the Lake Erie Shores and Island's 501c3 and earmarked for supporting the Catawba Islander Trail.
 - ii. At the January 18, 2022 meeting, Jannah reported that through a discussion with Denny Patthoff she learned he would like to remain on the board of the Friends of Ottawa County Parks, but would like a new president to be identified.
 - iii. At the July 6, 2021 meeting Gary Kohli and Mike Shadoan reported that ODOT Director McCully committed to adding a "check box" to the project planning process for Ottawa County projects to check with the Park District when planning projects in Ottawa County. Mike Shadoan also indicated that Ron Lajti cannot talk about bikeways as his scope is solely roads, so we must talk to the Ottawa County Commissioners regarding a similar "checkbox" or process for county roads. Mike has sent the commissioners an email.
 - iv. Denny Patthoff noted that ODOT will be repaving State Route 163 in Danbury Twp. in 2023/24 and requested that the Park District work with ODOT District 2 to improve the berm along 163. Mike Shadoan noted that we had discussed with Ottawa County Commissioner Mark Stahl at our June 1, 2021 meeting, to include making trails a part of the scope discussion in property development projects. Mike had also followed that discussion up with an email to Commissioner Stahl, forwarding material regarding the inclusion of trails when streets are constructed, entitled Complete Streets. Mike will follow-up with Commissioner Stahl and Ron Lajti regarding inclusion of widening State Route 163 during the repaving project to accommodate bikers/pedestrians.
- c. Portage River Water Trail
Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2022 - No discussion
- i. Expected designation as a water trail in 2021.
- d. Danbury Twp./Lafarge

Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2022 – no discussion

ACTION: *Judy Indorf to investigate the property for sale at the corner of Church Rd. and Port Clinton Eastern Rd. in Danbury Twp. to determine if the property may present an opportunity for the Park District.*

- i. At our March 1, 2022 meeting Judy Indorf reported that the property on Church Rd. and Port Clinton Eastern Rd. is still for sale.
- ii. At our February 15, 2022 meeting Judy Indorf reviewed the property at the corner of Church Rd. and Port Clinton Eastern Rd. that is for sale, reporting that Jannah and she walked the property on Friday February 11, 2022.
- iii. At our February 1, 2022 meeting Gary Kohli reported that the Prosecutor confirmed via email to Gary that the Park District could purchase property for our use, resale, etc. Judy will continue to work with Jannah to explore the possible opportunity in Danbury Twp.

- iv. At our December 21, 2021 meeting Judy Indorf reported that she and Jack met with Jake and Emily Dunfee, owners of Shrock's Marina, regarding trails in Danbury Twp. on December 13, 2021. A number of ideas for trails were discussed. It was noted that there is property in Danbury Twp. that could be of interest to the Park District.
- v. Contact has been made with a potential contact at Lafarge.
- vi. Jack Madison has identified a contact at Lafarge and Jack and Judy are drafting a letter to possibly be sent to the contact.
- vii. It was noted that Lakeside has a new CEO.
- viii. The Park District had an informational booth at the Lions Club Perch Festival on Saturday August 28, 2021 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The booth was visited by many attendees, and we collected 461 signatures from people who support the development of Multi-Use Trails in Ottawa County. We talked to most of these people and many were very excited about the potential and many noted the lack of trails as a gap for the area and also a safety issue.
- ix. The Board agrees with the Danbury Group continuing the process of investigating the support of property owners whose property abuts the Lafarge property in Danbury Twp. in Lafarge selling the property to the Park District of Ottawa County for development of a trail. The Board would like any letters of support to be approved by the Board before use.
- x. Judy Indorf and Denny Patthoff reported that a Marblehead Advisory Group is beginning to form and held its first meeting on June 22, 2021 with 6 attendees. The group brainstormed trail path ideas and agreed responsibility for researching the potential of the options discussed. A second meeting will be held in a few weeks
- ii. Judy Indorf noted that Jack Madison has discussed the possibility of trails in Danbury with some Danbury Twp. residents and several are very interested in supporting our efforts. Judy will contact these residents and suggest meeting and forming a committee similar to the Catawba Island Twp. Advisory Committee.
- iii. Judy Indorf and Denny Patthoff talked to Daniel Rogers, President of Lakeside, on May 26, 2021 to introduce the Park District of Ottawa County and its vision for Ottawa County and the Marblehead Peninsula trails to him. Daniel is supportive and offered to arrange for the Park District to have a similar discussion with his leadership team and then the Lakeside community.
- iv. Judy Indorf created a presentation that could be used to engage communities in the Park District's efforts. A suggestion was made to understand the levy voting results of the precincts in Danbury Twp. and Marblehead. Judy will aggregate that data. Jack Madison noted that Rebecca Makajani, Ottawa County Auditor's Office, GIC Coordinator can help print maps for exploring potential trail routes.
- v. Gary Kohli received a letter from Kocher & Gillum LLC law firm, confirming that the Meadowlands Homeowner Association is not in favor of a trail through the subdivision. Judy Indorf suggested we ask to attend one of the HOA's meetings to amiably discuss their concerns.
- vi. In response to Denny Patthoff's question regarding the Marketability Act, Gary reviewed the last two decisions made regarding this act and described the impact the act has on deeds. Gary and Denny intend to review the deed material Denny has collected to understand the impact of the Marketability Act.

4. New Business

a. General Discussion

Meeting Minutes April 5, 2022 – no discussion.

- i. At our March 1, 2022 meeting the former Interurban Railroad was discussed and the board is interested in learning what the route was.
- b. Davis Besse Railroad Opportunity

Meeting Minutes April 5, 2022 – Tim Bock reported the WE Realty has also found that the Ottawa County Auditor system indicates Cleveland Illuminating (First Energy) owns the Davis Besse railroad corridor. Since First Energy believes Norfolk and Southern owns the corridor, to confirm ownership WE Realty needs to conduct a title search and there will be a cost involved. Jannah will move forward with setting up a meeting to discuss the cost and scope with Tim and WE Realty.

ACTION: PDG/Tim Bock to work with WE Realty to determine who owns the First Energy/Cleveland Illuminating Company railroad corridor parcels from Davis Besse power plant to the main railroad line*

- i. At our March 15, 2022 meeting Tim Bock reported that PDG has asked WE Realty to look into the ownership of the Davis Besse former railroad corridor
- ii. At our March 1, 2022 meeting Jannah Wilson noted that First Energy believes Norfolk and Southern Railroad owns the railroad corridor running from Davis Besse power plant to the main line. This information appears to be inconsistent with the information Jannah and Judy found at the Ottawa County Auditor's Real Estate system. Tim Bock PDG, agreed to work with WE Realty to determine who owns the First Energy/Cleveland Illuminating Company railroad corridor from the Davis Besse power plant to the main railroad line. Jannah will send Tim the parcel information.
- iii. At our February 15, 2022 meeting Jannah Wilson reported that First Energy requested additional information and maps from Jannah, which she has sent to them.
- iv. At our January 18, 2022 meeting, Judy Indorf reported that the Real Estate Request Form has been submitted to First Energy with Jannah's contact information. Jack Madison may have a contact that could help us discuss this opportunity with First Energy if needed.
- v. Mike Shadoan reported that the First Energy Real Estate Right of Way Request Form is more involved than he originally realized. Mike and Judy Indorf will work on completing the form.
- vi. The board approved through a motion to send the First Energy Real Estate Right of Way Request Form to First Energy at the October 5, 2021 meeting.
- vii. It appears that Davis Besse/First Energy/Energy Harbor may be willing to give ROW easements for their railroad property but will not sell the property. Mike gave the form to be completed to inquire about the Davis Besse railroad property to Denny Patthoff to complete. Judy Indorf agreed to follow-up with Denny regarding the completion but noting that the form is to be presented to the board before it is sent to Davis Besse.
- viii. Mike Shadoan noted that it appears Davis Besse/First Energy/Energy Harbor is taking their railroad into the plant out of service. We will explore this possible opportunity without contacting anyone until the Board agrees to make a contact.
- c. Property/Road/Sidewalk/Trail Opportunities in the Oak Harbor area
Meeting Minutes April 5, 2022 – Mike Shadoan noted that there may be interest in bike trails in a Safe Routes to school initiative with Benton Carroll Salem Schools.

ACTION: *At the appropriate time, Mike Shadoan to inquire about possible interest in enhancements to a new sidewalk to the grade school.*

- i. At the appropriate time, Mike Shadoan agreed to inquire about possible interests to enhance the new sidewalk to the grade school.

- ii. At our August 17, 2021 meeting, Mike Shadoan discussed potential ideas for property/roads/sidewalks/multi-use trails in the Oak Harbor area. Mike noted that we should consider making the development of a Grant process one of the first priorities for our new Director when he/she is hired. We could then introduce the Director to various organizations and he/she could rollout the Grant process at these visits. This Grant process may be a good option for some of the ideas in the Oak Harbor area.
- d. Charting our path forward
 - i. Maintenance
 - Meeting Minutes April 5, 2022 – No discussion**
 - 1. Initially consider partnering with Sandusky County or the community in which the property requiring maintenance is located; Likely not until 2022.

5. Executive Session

Angela LeForce moved we enter Executive Session at 7:38 PM

Jack Madison seconded the motion

A vote was held to approve the motion with the following outcome:

Gary Kohli	Yes
Angela LeForce	Yes
Jack Madison	Yes
Mike Shadoan	Yes
Judy Indorf	Yes

The motion carries.

Mike Shadoan moved we exit Executive Session at 7:58 PM

Jack Madison seconded the motion

A vote was held to approve the motion with the following outcome:

Gary Kohli	Yes
Angela LeForce	Yes
Jack Madison	Yes
Mike Shadoan	Yes
Judy Indorf	Yes

The motion carries.

- 6. Information Items: **Meeting Minutes March 15, 2022** – Angela LeForce presented the board with her Letter of Resignation from the board. The board is sorry to see Angela leave the board and thanked her for her years of service and dedication.
 - a. At our March 15, 2022 meeting Kevin Joyce from Trust for Public Land reviewed the process through which TPL can help in the acquisition of property. Jannah will continue to engage Kevin in our project opportunities.
Kevin and Jannah both noted that Jason Lewis from the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge would be a good person for Jannah to meet and discuss partnering opportunities with.

7. Adjournment:

Next working meeting will be April 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Catawba Island Twp. Hall at 3307 NW Catawba Rd. Port Clinton

Next regular meeting will be May 3, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Ottawa County Agricultural Building at 240 West Lake St. Oak Harbor