

**ORANGE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARK BOARD**

**September 22, 2009 Regular Meeting**

1 The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairperson Jennifer Christian.

2  
3 The minutes were taken and prepared by Secretary Lisa Knapp.

4  
5 **ROLL CALL:**

6 **Present:** Jennifer Christian, Len Fisher, Steve Aumiller, Chris Masciola

7 **Absent:** Michelle Eckels

8  
9 **Other township officials present:** Trustee Liaison Nelson Katz; Secretary Lisa Knapp;  
10 Facilities, Grounds, and Parks Manager Bob Barbosky; Township Administrator Gail  
11 Messmer; Maintenance and Parks Director Beth Hugh; Township Owner’s Rep Scott  
12 Overturf.

13  
14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

15 Ms. Christian made a motion to approve the minutes from the OTCPB meeting on  
16 7/22/09 as presented. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion. Vote: Christian, yes; Fisher, yes;  
17 Aumiller, abstain; Masciola, yes. Motion carried, minutes approved.

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19  
20 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- 21  
22 ♦ There were no comments from the public.

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24 **AGENDA ITEMS**

25  
26 **ALUM CREEK UPDATE**

- 27 ♦ Mr. Fisher said that he attended a meeting where people were asked to give input  
28 regarding how Alum Creek Park should be developed and what they would like to  
29 see. He said he would like to see connectivity with trails around the entire park,  
30 including connectivity/circle trails around the park, and officials agreed. He also  
31 suggested eliminating power boats from the reservoir by 2020 but many boaters were  
32 in attendance so that didn’t go over very well. However, a compromise to get rid of  
33 2-cycle engines, which pollute a lot, was suggested and well-received.
- 34 ♦ Mr. Fisher said he also suggested much deer and goose control including the  
35 expansion of the hunting season to get rid of geese. There was discussion about the  
36 federal government having control over the hunting laws, and he said that geese have  
37 really become a problem. He suggested stocking fish at Alum Creek but learned that  
38 is already being done. More bass fishing facilities may be made available.
- 39 ♦ Mr. Fisher said it was interesting to note that townships can propose recreational  
40 areas within public lands and that Alum Creek officials are more than willing to  
41 discuss this with the township. He noted that all the land in the state park is open to  
42 the public, even the model airplane airport, docks, etc. and that sailing clubs, etc.  
43 cannot keep people off these areas.
- 44 ♦ New boat docks may be built on the Africa Road side of Alum Creek. The docks at  
45 the sailing club are used by the sailing club who are members of the sailing club, but  
46 the general public cannot be kept off the land.
- 47 ♦ There was a discussion about areas where one could swim from boats, and there are  
48 currently two such areas; however, more areas are needed due to the popularity of  
49 this. The Corp said they would consider this.
- 50 ♦ Mr. Fisher said that people up near Cheshire Road want a special park at Cheshire  
51 and Africa Roads, and it may be possible to lease that area from the Corp.
- 52 ♦ Mr. Fisher said that Robert Wattenschaidt, with the US Army Corp of Engineers, said  
53 that if Orange Township wants to propose a cost-sharing partnership to build a trail  
54 bridge across Alum Creek Drive below the dam, the Corp may be willing to share in  
55 the engineering for a bridge for a trail to cross Alum Creek and its building costs with  
56 the township. Alum Creek has received stimulus money and they would like to spend  
57 it.

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- 58 ♦ Mr. Katz asked what the Corp said it would be willing to share costs for. Mr. Fisher  
59 reiterated him statement. Mr. Katz asked if it would be related to the trail itself. Mr.  
60 Fisher said, "No," but that it could be discussed.
- 61 ♦ Mr. Katz said that he was up near Alum Creek during speed boat races and he was  
62 surprised at the noise level as it is as loud as racecars. Mr. Aumiller said it is non-  
63 stop all day.

### 64 65 HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTION

- 66 ♦ Ms. Christian said that the final copy of the Powerpoint presentation for the  
67 homeowners association presentations has been provided tonight. When Board  
68 members need them for presentations they can contact Orange Township Office  
69 Assistant Glen Upton for copies.
- 70 ♦ Ms. Christian noted that she had mailed an assignment list for presentations to the  
71 homeowners associations and if Board members would like those assignments to be  
72 changed they can just let her know. She can also created a targeted timeline for the  
73 process and people can tag-team for their first presentations if desired.
- 74 ♦ Mr. Katz mentioned that he had asked Mr. Overturf to review the document for any  
75 last-minute changes, and he has just now provided the changes, which Mr. Katz  
76 reviewed.

### 77 78 TRUSTEE LIASON REPORT

- 79 ♦ Mr. Katz said that the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission held a meeting  
80 recently regarding the 3-C Quickstart Public Meetings, regarding the possibility of the  
81 Ohio Department of Transportation and the ORDC possibly building a rail line  
82 between Cleveland and Columbus, Columbus and Dayton, and Dayton and  
83 Cincinnati. He has the literature in case anybody wants to see it.
- 84 ♦ Mr. Katz said the grand opening of the pool addition at the North Orange Aquatic  
85 Center was held on 7/31/09 and it was well attended. He is convinced that building  
86 the pool addition was the right thing to do.
- 87 ♦ Mr. Katz said that on 8/1/09 the township's annual BBQ was held at the pool and  
88 there was a record attendance of 351 people. Ms. Hugh was not sure whether it was a  
89 record but it was higher than last year. Mr. Katz said that the event ran out of sides  
90 and they had to be replenished.
- 91 ♦ 8/1 had annual BBQ catered by city bbbg many be 351 people last year had lots of  
92 leftover food, not this year, had to make 2 extra runs for sides, ran out. Big success
- 93 ♦ On 7/30/09 the township approved the bid documents for the Owenfield Bikeway  
94 Project which runs along Owenfield Drive from Powell Road to Hidden Ravines  
95 Drive on the north to Route 23. The total length is about 1.2 miles. An alternate for  
96 the project is a leisure path running from North Orange Township Park to the  
97 northernmost point of Gooding Boulevard where the new Delaware County District  
98 Library is scheduled to be built. That alternate path runs about .8 miles.
- 99 ♦ On 8/3/09 the township accepted the Del-Co Water easements on the north and south  
100 Orange Trails after 2 years of works, and he described them. The township has also  
101 accepted the Del-Co Water easement on the south Orange Trail around the Del-Co  
102 Water tower on East Orange Road. He thanked Del-Co Water for helping to make  
103 the community's desire for more leisure trails a reality.
- 104 ♦ The township is in delicate negotiations to get permission to build on an exclusive  
105 easement on the North Orange trail around Summersweet Circle, also known as the  
106 Glen Oak Estates.
- 107 ♦ On 8/11/09 David Rankin, treasurer of the Northpointe Meadows Homeowners  
108 Association, Mr. Overturf, and Michael McCarthy, township legal counsel, walked  
109 the Northpointe Meadows property, and agreed to move the trail further north just  
110 inside the fence, which will involve removing 7-8 trees. Mr. Katz said he agreed to  
111 replace a few of them. The homeowners association has agreed with the township's  
112 last proposal and the township is getting that paperwork together so another meeting  
113 can be scheduled and access will be provided to place the leisure trail on their  
114 property.

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- 115 ♦ On 8/21/09 the trustees held a special meeting to review the bids and approved the  
116 awarding of the contract for the Owenfield Bikeway project and Alternate #1.  
117 Resolutions were also passed to apply for a grant from Preservation Parks of  
118 Delaware Count for a pedestrian bike trail traffic warning device to be placed on the  
119 Owenfield Bikeway Project.
- 120 ♦ Ms. Christian asked where that would be located. Mr. Katz said it would be at the  
121 crossing located at the southern end of Tim Horton's. Five bid packages with 5  
122 separate bidders were received; the base bid for the project was estimated at about  
123 \$223,000.00 and the lowest responsive responsible bid came from W.B. Republic  
124 Builders LLC. at \$245,000.00. He felt that the township has the funds necessary to  
125 accept the alternative bid for \$66,000.00 for a trail along Gooding Boulevard to the  
126 site of the Delaware County District library, and both bids were accepted.
- 127 ♦ The Owenfield Bikeway project is on schedule and it should be completed by the end  
128 of the month. Mr. Overturf agreed.
- 129 ♦ During the trustee meeting this past Monday a resident suggested that the township  
130 do what it can via the county engineer to have the entire Owenfield Drive limited to  
131 25 MPH, and the township is looking into that. The road is currently 25 and 35 MPH.  
132 Mr. Barbosky said that 35 MPH is too fast for that road at this time, especially given  
133 the addition of the leisure trail. Mr. Overturf added that the county engineer may  
134 recommend that the entire road be 35 MPH. Ms. Christian said that since the Orange  
135 Road bridge has opened there may be less cut-through traffic on Owenfield Drive.
- 136 ♦ Mr. Katz said that Ron Wean, president of the Villages of Oak Creek Homeowners  
137 Association (VOCHOA), recently passed away. With his passing, he would like to  
138 revisit the possibility of getting an easement from that homeowners association. He,  
139 Ms. Hugh, and Mr. McCarthy walked the property last night so he could get a visual  
140 of what the township may be discussing in the future.
- 141 ♦ Mr. Katz said that on Monday the trustees approved a purchase order to re-survey the  
142 VOCHOA property to get one of the township's trail concepts moved about 7' away  
143 from Suburban Natural Gas' gas line, and a purchase order was also approved to get a  
144 jurisdictional waters field delineation done for wetland area in the Glen Oak Park  
145 property.
- 146 ♦ Changes have been made to the Glen Oak Park property design, which resulted in  
147 moving items around like the parking lot, the building, gazebo and fire hydrant  
148 locations and a purchase order for that has been approved.
- 149 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that seeding will be attempted in Phase I, and grants are being  
150 requested for the playground.
- 151 ♦ Ms. Christian asked whether the township has asked about grant money from the Safe  
152 Routes to Schools. Mr. Overturf said he has applied for that grant.
- 153 ♦ Mr. Katz said the township is doing what is necessary for the wiring and installation  
154 of cameras and recorders both at the North Orange Aquatic Center and at the  
155 Township Hall. He left the details to Ms. Hugh to elaborate if she so desires.
- 156 ♦ Mr. Katz said that Mr. Overturf will be discussing the parks capital budget for 2010-  
157 2011, and he asked for input from this Board prior to making his final  
158 recommendations. This would have to happen prior to the next Board meeting. He  
159 asked that Board members email him their comments, recommendations, and  
160 priorities at his personal email address nelson0535@earthlink.net regarding the  
161 projects Mr. Overturf will be outlining and which the Board feels will be in the best  
162 interest of the township at large.
- 163 ♦ Mr. Katz asked that Board members provide only information which would best  
164 accommodate the entire township and not just a small demographic or a small  
165 geographic location.
- 166 ♦ Ms. Christian asked for a brief overview of how the decisions to make the design  
167 changes at Glen Oak Park were made. Mr. Masciola said he had the same question.  
168 Mr. Katz said Ms. Hugh would discuss that in her report.

169

#### MAINTENANCE AND PARKS MANAGER REPORT

- 171 ♦ Ms. Hugh said none of the amenities or facilities at Glen Oak Park were removed or  
172 changed in any way; when she saw the plan she decided to move objects away from

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173 being beneath the electric lines, and items were "scrunched together" to be more user-
174 friendly and for maintenance and visibility. The sledding hill remains in its location,
175 as well as the trail through the wooded area. No playground area was shown but its
176 location has now been identified. There will be a shelter and restroom directly next to
177 that. The soccer field was shifted to the north and towards the railroad tracks and the
178 trails which connect to the railroad track trail line up better.

- 179 ♦ Mr. Masciola asked to see the updated drawing. Ms. Hugh said that is being worked
180 on now but the final drawing is not available yet. She said the large recycling bins
181 will be relocated to the Glen Oak Park from Ro Park although the small bins will
182 remain. Ms. Christian asked whether the community can use those recycling bins for
183 their recycling needs. Mr. Overturf said that is the purpose of the larger bins.
- 184 ♦ Ms. Hugh said that natural trails will be raked, graded, and rolled in so that any
185 erosion rills which have formed can be hardened up again. Pool winterization will be
186 done this week and next week, and the township hall parking lot will be resurfaced by
187 the end of October. A playground audit will be done for Ro Park and for North
188 Orange Park. This will consist of a certified inspector coming in to inspect
189 everything from a safety and liability standpoint.
- 190 ♦ Mr. Barbosky said that he has applied for the Ohio Parks and Recreation Outstanding
191 Facility Award for the North Orange Aquatic Center, and he said this is a good time
192 to highlight a township project. He said the project has a good shot at getting the
193 award.

194
195 OWNER'S REP REPORT

- 196 ♦ Mr. Overturf provided a Project Implementation Schedule and Estimated Costs for
197 the projects in the Park Master Plan Update in the order in which they are intended to
198 be implemented as follows:

199 Project Implementation Schedule and estimated costs  
2009

a	NOP pool addition	876,000
b	Glen Oak Phase I	382,000
c	Owenfield Trail	223,870
d	Gooding Blvd Trail	65,000
e	Highfield Trail Marking signage	1,600
f	South Old State to Walker Woods Trail	252,500
g	Lewis Center to Glen Oak Trail	507,000

2010

a	Loveland Pond	
	Walker Woods to Bale Kenyon E. Orange Road	
b	Trail	143,000
c	Hidden Ravines to Gooding Blvd (Kingwood Multi-Use Trail A or B)	293,000
d	North Road Property Development	24,000
e	Alum Creek Trail Design Development & Easements	
f	Glen Oak Phase II	350,000
g	South Orange Road Trail to Loveland Property	262,000
h	Gladshire to Royal Oaks	95,000

2011

a	West Orange routes Design Development & Easements	1,800
b	Rail Road Crossing in Lewis Center	60,000
c	Orange Road Rail Crossing Trail	60,000
d	East Powell Loop from Royal Oaks to Loveland Pond	775,000
e	Alum Creek North section	320,000
f	Alum Creek Middle Section	320,000
h	Graphic Way Signage	1,400

2012

a	Community Center	14,000,000
b	Bridge Over 23	1,500,000

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	South Old State from Orange Road to Lewis	
d	Center	550,000
e	South Old State or Lewis Center into Alum Creek Park	
f	Alum Creek South Sections	653,000
g	Parklawn to Lewis center	75,000

Other Projects

a	Metro Parks Trail	
b	Lot sealing RO Park	
c	Sealing Paths	
d	Repair NOP lot	
e	Sealing Lot	
f	Irrigation fields	
g	Polaris Trail	
h	Walker Woods Land	300,00
i	NOP curbing around sand area	
j	RO move drinking fountain	
k	Park and Trail Signage	
l	North Road to Lewis Center	166,500
m	Trails within Alum Creek	
n	Olentangy Xing Property	

- 200 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that regarding Metro Parks trail, Liberty Township would like to
- 201 meet with Orange Township and Preservation Parks regarding how they can connect
- 202 to Highbanks Metro Park. He provided more information.
- 203 ♦ There is some work to do regarding lot and path repair and sealing.
- 204 ♦ The irrigation of fields was discussed. The main lines were installed but it wouldn't
- 205 have cost much extra to install the rest. The pond at Glen Oak Park will be used.
- 206 There is a lot of play time and little grow time on the fields.
- 207 ♦ Regarding the potential trail at Polaris which could connect from Orange Township to
- 208 the City of Columbus, the township will try to be part of that conversation when it
- 209 occurs. It is located just 100' from Walker Woods.
- 210 ♦ Mr. Fisher said he noticed that condos are being built in the same area where the
- 211 township would like a trail to go, and the township is going to lose that area if it
- 212 hasn't already lost it. Mr. Overturf said only 300' would be lost, as the rest of it is in
- 213 Columbus. Mr. Fisher said the township might lose the entire project if action isn't
- 214 taken as there are large buildings being built at the location previously discussed.
- 215 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that is why this is being discussed and the trustees would need to
- 216 determine that is a course the township wants to spend their time and resources on.
- 217 He needs to determine whether Columbus has any desire to connect the trail; it has no
- 218 money but is doing bonds.
- 219 ♦ There will be curbing done around the sand play area at North Orange Park.
- 220 ♦ Mr. Overturf said the fountain at Ro Park is leaking and is too low and is a problem.
- 221 He has wanted to fix it for several years but he hasn't spent the time to promote the
- 222 project. Ms. Hugh added that all future drinking fountains will be located 5-6' away
- 223 from paths yet still be accessible.
- 224 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that there is a greater push for park and trail signage. Trails within
- 225 North Orange park were discussed.
- 226 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that he would like to get a trail into Alum Creek as soon as possible
- 227 for safety reasons. In the past park officials have stated that they don't object to the
- 228 township running trails through there and he will meet with them. He is not an
- 229 advocate for having trails on either side of Lewis Center Road in that area and he
- 230 wants to get people off the main road as it is dangerous and the topography is also
- 231 very hard.
- 232 ♦ The Olentangy Crossings park is just a placeholder and there are no plans for it at this
- 233 time. Ms. Christian asked if the Board and the trustees would be made aware if
- 234 things started to move in at a quicker pace in that area. Mr. Katz said, "Yes."

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- 235 ♦ Mr. Overturf discussed what has been done in 2009 to this point.
- 236 ♦ Mr. Overturf discussed directional signage for trails and whether or not they will be
- 237 marked on the asphalt or signs mounted. However, no money was allocated for signs
- 238 in the budget. Ms. Christian asked if he needed any information from this Board
- 239 regarding recommendation on this issue. Mr. Overturf said there was no conclusion.
- 240 Mr. Katz said his conclusion was that the streets would not be painted.
- 241 ♦ Ms. Hugh was concerned about painting information on the street as cars park along
- 242 the street and it can be confusing. Mr. Katz said there had also been discussion
- 243 regarding whether the signs would be on one side or both sides of the road. Ms.
- 244 Hugh recalled that they wouldn't be on just one side due to safety issues of bikes
- 245 going the same way on the same side of the street. The laws for bicyclists are the
- 246 same as those for vehicular traffic and so they should stay on the same side of the
- 247 street.
- 248 ♦ Mr. Katz asked that this Board provide their input on this issue to Ms. Hugh after this
- 249 meeting and he is open to that input.
- 250 ♦ Ms. Christian asked whether input has been received from the residents in that area.
- 251 Mr. Katz said it has not been received.
- 252 ♦ Mr. Overturf said he recalled that he and Ms. Hugh were to look into the issue and
- 253 bring the information forward to this Board for discussion.
- 254 ♦ Mr. Overturf said there are three ways proposed to get over to North Orange Park
- 255 from the west side of Route 23, and he feels that having a trail on the west side of
- 256 Route 23 and having it come all the way across Route 23 would be a good project to
- 257 be completed within the next two years. This will result in the servicing of
- 258 everybody; the township is now set to do that but it just needs to work for the
- 259 easements and work their way across.
- 260 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that regarding the North Road property development, the township
- 261 will be thinking about moving forward with that and that should be discussed. The
- 262 township needs to start the design process for the Alum Creek trail design.
- 263 ♦ Mr. Overturf discussed the crossing of trails over railroad tracks.
- 264 ♦ Mr. Overturf said that as indicated on the list, the Community Center may be a
- 265 conversation but he doesn't bring that up until the appropriate time.
- 266 ♦ Mr. Overturf said the bridge over Route 23 to North Orange Park is a priority.

267

268 COMMENTS

- 269 ♦ Ms. Christian said there may be value to having brief feedback to share now from the
- 270 Board. Mr. Katz said that would be fine if there is something which is really
- 271 outstanding that she wants to bring up.
- 272 ♦ Ms. Christian said that Mr. Fisher had a good point regarding the potential Polaris
- 273 Trail. Even though the township doesn't have control over what Columbus does, the
- 274 potential trail wouldn't required a large financial investment by the township in order
- 275 to have access through that area. However, it does seem that time and
- 276 communication would need to be invested to ensure that opportunity doesn't
- 277 disappear. This is something which is a current issue. Mr. Katz said he agreed that
- 278 counterparts in Columbus should be contacted.
- 279 ♦ Mr. Aumiller said that he could help make arrangements to speak with Brad Westall
- 280 regarding that area and he would provide his contact information to Mr. Katz. Ms.
- 281 Barbosky asked about getting an easement through that area.
- 282 ♦ Mr. Katz said that he tries to put his limited time into things which will have a payoff,
- 283 and he doesn't have time to do things which may not have a payoff.
- 284 ♦ Mr. Katz said he has seen information from the Delaware County Engineer stating
- 285 that a party is attempting to add an extension to Lyra Drive so that it extends to East
- 286 Powell Road, although he is not certain of the details, and he thought it had been
- 287 rejected once or twice.
- 288 ♦ Ms. Christian said that regarding parks and trails signage, now that things are starting
- 289 to happen with trails it may make sense to consider that sooner rather than later.
- 290 ♦ Mr. Katz said that he has heard that during the township's land use plan meetings
- 291 Scott Sanders, executive director of the Delaware County Regional Planning
- 292 Commission mentioned welcoming signage as one enters the township. Ms. Knapp

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- 293 said that was in reference to monument signs at the entry to the township, similar to  
294 the Orange Township sign at the corner of S. Old State and E. Orange Roads, stating  
295 “Delaware County” on the top and “Welcome to Orange Township” on the bottom.  
296 ♦ Ms. Christian said signs were part of the Parks Master Plan and the counsel from Mr.  
297 Katz was that any discussion regarding that needed to wait until after the upcoming  
298 election. Mr. Katz said he didn’t feel there was any harm in terms of where the  
299 information is placed in terms of order of discussion, but the township is not ready to  
300 do it now. Ms. Christian said she was referring only to trail signage and she felt it  
301 should be discussion in 2010.  
302 ♦ Ms. Christian said that the item “Alum Creek Design Development and Easements”  
303 indicated under 2010 should be kept, especially due to the fact that the Corp is  
304 working to update its 25-year old master plan at this time.  
305 ♦ Ms. Christian said that under 2010 “North Road Property” that could be moved to  
306 2011 as the township is not completely certain of what will occur yet. Mr. Aumiller  
307 and Mr. Masciola agreed.  
308 ♦ Ms. Christian suggested keeping the “Gladshire Trail” category under 2010 as that  
309 will help finish that trail area out along S. Old State Road. Mr. Aumiller agreed.  
310 ♦ Ms. Christian reiterated that feedback regarding prioritization and budgets should be  
311 sent to Mr. Katz. Feedback regarding leisure trails, painting of signage, etc. should be  
312 emailed to Ms. Hugh. Ms. Hugh noted that the comments sent to any of them are  
313 shared amongst them.

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315 ADJOURNMENT

- 316 ♦ There was no further business to come before the Board. Motion to adjourn. Meeting  
317 adjourned.

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Jennifer Christian, Chairperson

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Steve Aumiller, Vice-Chairman

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Len Fisher, Member

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Chris Masciola, Member

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Michelle Eckels, Member