

<b>Code</b>	517015
<b>Subject</b>	Terry Stahurski
<b>Date</b>	6/19/2008
<b>Interviewer</b>	Tony Nigro
<b>Special Notes</b>	West Creek Preservation

**minutes:**

- 0 Introduction
- 1 Project committees; latest projects for watershed; motivations  
Motivations: councilman sent notices that land would be developed around
- 2 subject's area; group from Seven Hills and others tried to stop it  
Initial goal: save at least some green space; fought city hall; developer brought
- 3 lawsuit  
Court initially ruled in favor of developer; December of 1999, began destroying
- 4 woods  
Prime motivation for joining committee to save land; joined West Creek
- 5 Preservation in '98-'99. Grants committee; challenges getting funding  
Other conservation projects; volunteering for fund raisers, river clean ups; grass-
- 6 roots effort when started
  
- 7 Dave Vasarhelyi spear-headed project; names other important to establishment  
Funding: city level funding, support from local mayors for West Creek; Dean
- 8 Dipiero
- 9 Confluence Project; supported by Senator Voinovich.
- 10 Area originally an eyesore; had abandon buildings; future plans  
Add native plant life; act as wet lands, hopefully avoid flooding as in past; Subject
- 11 likes wetlands
- 12 Wetlands: originally site was city dump  
Importance of West Creek preservation: lack of green space in Parma; reduces
- 13 amount of pollution
  
- 14 source for water for filtration; add to quality of life; approximately 400-600 acres  
High points: success of saving 300 acres from development; creation of West
- 15 Creek itself; wetlands creation  
Heneger House; were able to save from being Kenny Rodgers Chicken stand;
- 16 success proved that projects are possible. Hurdles: funding
- 17 Hurdles cont.: maintainance, continued public support.  
Criticisms: mostly from ignorance, lack of understanding. Changes in landscape:
- 18 once little known area, now much used by public
- 19 Changes cont.; people more informed about environment  
Benefits to area: green space; link to towpath; improves living conditions of
- 20 people; improves property values; water quality  
Differing expectations: subject surprised at success/evolution; other groups
- 21 looking to see how preservation is done
  
- 22 Written grants for some cities; also advised on who to contact, organize groups
- 23 Raising money strategies: grants; city and volunteers; events with booths  
Future: duties of some members of group will taken over by metro parks; plans for
- 24 expansion for West Creek; subjects comments
- 25 repeat of sources of support; importance of personal relationships
- 26 Facilitator makes own comments (irrelevant)
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