

Code:	517023
Subject:	Laura McShane
Date:	19-Jun-08
Interviewer:	Melanie Stuthard
Special Notes:	Case Western Reserve; Rivers, Roads and Rails Teaching American History Grant; West Creek Preservation Committee; interviewers first interview

Minutes: 60

0 Librarian; born early 60's in Cleveland; grew up West Park and Rocky River; volunteer in West Creek; board member

1 Grants committee; Dave and Jennie Vasarhelyi

2 Grants committee; Dave Lincheck; Sue Zurovchak; Bob Greytec; Terry Stahurski

3 grant writing process; Cleveland Foundation; Gund Foundation; Ohio Canal Corridor

4 Clean Ohio allowed to acquire lands; passed bond issue in Parma; 2002 hire first staffer

5 Watershed Coordinator; hard to find match money for staff; community support; write a management plan

6 biology and architecture background

7 mapping program; explored the West Creek area by foot; areas hiked in the 90's are gone

8 community recognition of need to preserve; Mayor Boltz; develop headwater area into golf course; NOWACA

9 Cuyahoga River Remedial Action Plan; wrote article for David Beech's Ecos in Cleveland; Cory Creek; Ernest Kovacik History of Parma; Jim King retired architect; Parma Historical Society

10 Henniger House; Dave Vasarhelyi called her; Robert Horely

11 concerned with natural areas being destroyed; Bird Observatory in Massachusetts, Edgewater MD

12 impact of habitat fragmentation

13 lack of habitat of birds; hiked Rocky River and saw damage; hiked in Tinker's Creek

14 hiked West Creek, area between Grantwood and Snow Road; hanging vines; destroyed by a development in the 90's

15 beauty of area in prior minute; American Indian crying advertisement

16 writing ability was her strength for the group

17 grant writers

18 historical background of the area

19 being a librarian she could bring strength of research and reading; importance of having a leader

20 Dave Vasarhelyi is the leader; respect for Bob Greyteck

21 importance of saving creeks, rivers, lakes

22 "Everybody can't save the world, but they can save their neighborhood"; animal response to protect their home

23 forming the committee in the first place was a milestone; multigenerational; Dave Lincheck youngest; seniors

24 Gabe L. - 14 year old did inventory; good place for birds

25 Parma wasn't known for environmental statements; immigrants; community said no to development

26 Gannett purchase was also a milestone; hours volunteers put in; Dave Vasarhelyi and Neal Hess

27 Confluence Area important milestone

28 acquisition of Henniger House; history of area

29 Innermodal Transportation monies used to buy house; need for more volunteers

30 Henniger House historical background tie to canal history: Big Creek; Henniger family

31 Pearl Rd. Parma; Wooster Turnpike; Phillip and Sophia Henniger; quarry industry; Bob Horely

32 Henniger family member lived in house until the 80's, sat vacant; vandalized; built on plateau, tribute of West Creek behind the house

33 Dave Vasarhelyi was the Ohioan of the Year

34 local media attention; recorded history

35 Plain Dealer Sunday magazine; not everyone was happy about the Metropark take over; mountain bikes; paintball

36 needed Metroparks financially and logistically; her ideal to have less people, more birds and trees

37 Cleveland Area Mountain Bike Association; Terry Greyhouse Tri C

38 landfill; TV towers; filled in valley; lots of creeks, Greenbriar, tributaries buried

39 reconstruction of wetlands; transformation of landscape; brought in wildlife; seniors with trowels putting in cattails

40 land trust; model for other committees; radius has to start moving in

41 University Circle; rebuild communities close to the center

42 thinking about quality of life we need; certain parts of country not good at sustaining life - they don't have water; Ohio has water

43 committees need someone who is popular and appealing as a spokesperson

44 Dave Vasarhelyi connected to local community; relate on a personal level; commitment to being somewhere

45 exploit ties to get things done without compromising values; need people in their 20's and 30's

46 tap into energy of younger people; "the group provided focus for my frustrations"; ideal gets killed by beauracacy

47 relieved there were other people who were not satisfied with status quo

48 lives in Brooklyn Center; history; Sanborn maps

49 Tremont; Brooklyn Center resident diversity; decent housing stock

50 Tremont is a sandy knoll; environmental hazards; high ground; Sandborn maps; orchards

51 head of a creek under her house; Tinkers Creek is 96 miles long; a river is 100 miles long

52 planning session in her local community; signal changers were taken down; Fulton Rd. bridge

53 noisy neighborhood; diversity; different values; sees more and more people who think there's a need for standards

54 migration of families to Parma, Seven Hills, Middleburg Heights; close to inner city; garden quality; used to be nuseries there

55 Riverview and Lakeview Cemeteries; family information

56 Metroparks; Cuyahoga Valley National Park

57 Metroparks being controlled by the same people for too long; civilizing influence

58 people were shocked by the terrible thing that happened in the park, terrible things happen everywhere; ownership in America

59 Carol Miller parks and people and how they define us

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