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| Code | 517048 |
| Subject | Cascade Locks Park |
| Date | 6/24/2008 |
| Interviewer | Tim Gallagher |
| Special Notes | none |

minutes:

Ellen Otto, June 24, 2008. Born in Northfield Ohio. Moved to Cuyahoga Falls when she was three

Currently lives at Hampton Ridge. Mother's side was original Pioneers.

1 Grandmother was born in Zore, Ohio (1875)

Grandfather married Grandmother and moved to Cleveland. Then they bought a

2 farm on Brandywine 1919 (built in 1825)

Dad moved to Akron for work (Cornwall England) at Goodrich, later met Mom...rest

3 is history

Cascade Locks Park - got involved in the early 1990s through Virginia Wonjo.

4 Mustil Store - event 1995

5 Included food prepared just as would have been done during the Mustil period.

Complete with horses, chickens and goats. Help to define what to do with the Mustil

6 Store. "Cradle of Akron"

7 Cascade Locks Park is an organization that, "Puts their money where their mouth is."

A study of collaboration, Virginia Wonjo, City of Akron, Cuyahoga Valley National

8 Park, Metro Park serving Summit County

Biggest hurdle - Raising money and making a connection to the property in such a

9 way that motivates financial contribution

Feeling is - That things must be done now before it is gone. Once it's gone it's

10 gone. (Ticking Clock)

It is important to capture what people did to help future generations protect the

11 property

Currently 700 members, with a board of 15 members, plus many volunteers. Hot

12 Jazz on Howard - fundraiser (August 16th)

Howard Street is where the people who dug the canal built their homes (Irish and

13 Germane immigrants)

1920s, black people of Akron began moving to the area bringing Jazz to the area

14 during continuing through 1930s, 40s, 50s.

Interested in developing the area in a compatible way to the park. Now trying to take

15 the trail up into town, behind the ball park and further south.

Marketing committee publishes a News Letter to promote involvement. Also, hand

16 out literature at the Store and at special events

17 Political we have been blessed with the support of Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic

Without our historic roots, we are an antiseptic box. Preserving our heritage and our

18 history adds to our quality of life

Dave Lieberth (Deputy Mayor) also supports the group and the park. Rode in on a

19 horse portraying the governor of the times

20 Garden Club - Cristine Freitag helps create an authentic landscape.

21 Ohio is #6 in the country for tourism

As we package things correctly we can motivate more tourism by leveraging existing

22 destinations.

23 Akron, Canton, Cleveland - opportunity for a hub and spoke tourism

24 *Needs are still the same. Create awareness and raise money*

Next Challenge is getting the Shoemaker Mill Site together. Still striving to be

25 relevant to the people of the community

Conducted research by interviewing people who live in the area. Found that they
26 are very pleased so far

27 Bridget Garvin has been a wonderful leader.

Now that we have saved the property, we need to get people to visit to promote
28 excitement

We have to clarify (financing) between Metro Parks, Cascade Locks Park,
29 Cuyahoga National Park.

Ellen is very connected to the area. Grandfather help to construct the Crib that
30 brings water to Cleveland. Plus the farm

Grandparents helped people survive during the depression - Oliver O'casec - "God
31 bless Laura Black" (Grandmother)

Tall Tales - Driving home from Cleveland on payday her Uncle had a check in one
32 hand and a shotgun in the other

In Zore when Grandma was a little girl, there were Indians who got drunk and would
33 not leave the girls alone. They had to

put the girls on the roof. Plus there was a peg leg Indian they had to string a
34 clothesline to trip him.

Romanticize running a farm but it's a lot of hard work. Replies believe it or not - pig
35 story

Getting involved is as easy as making a simple step like making a phone call or
36 donating some time and/or money

37 Kerns family sold the property to the Catholic Cemetery Association

38 Thrilling to see the inside of the house with black hinges, and wide wooden floors.

Good times at the Cascade Locks helped to inspire involvement. We had a dinner
39 reenactment with lights dimmed and candles

40 trying to make it reminisant of the way things were during the time of the Mustils

41 Some people dressed up for the role(s) they played

42 Creating this kind of ambiance kindles attachment to the property

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