

Resolution #09-0120-05 Authorizing the Olentangy Falls Reforestation Project with a 32 acre tree planting program for environmental benefits to Olentangy River and Watershed

Whereas, Planned Communities provided the Township with approximately forty (40) acres of land for preservation with a conservation easement known as "Smith Preserve" and the proposed reforestation project is in keeping with these easements and the preservation principles under existing state law which the staff has validated as not only an acceptable, but preferred method of preservation and conservation practice,

Whereas, said deed restrictions provide not only for reforestation options but also management and prevention of invasive species which would require active moving or other cost prohibitive efforts in the long term, and

Whereas, the program is underwritten by Nisource (Columbia Gas parent company) and will be conducted by Preservation Parks staff at NO COST to Liberty Township and will result in: 1) reforestation of 8 acres of floodplain with native tree species, 2) approximately 24 acres of reforestation outside the 100 year flood plain with indigenous tree species to prevent invasive species, and 3) targeted environmental benefits to the Great Blue Heron Rookery and the two rare Mussel species indigenous to the Olentangy River, the Elktoe and Wavy-Rayed Lampmussel.

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved, by the Liberty Township Board of Trustees, Delaware County, Ohio approves the Olentangy Falls Reforestation Project in conjunction with Preservation Parks and Nisource Gas.

Motion made by GUZZO and seconded by Sybert.

Vote: 425 Ms. Guzzo _____ Mr. Mann 425 Mr. Sybert

This Resolution shall be in force and become effective immediately upon its execution.

11/20/09
Date

Curtis J. Sybert
Curtis J. Sybert, Trustee

Robert Mann, Trustee

CERTIFIED BY:

Peggy Guzzo
Peggy Guzzo, Trustee

Mark S. Gerber
Mark S. Gerber, Fiscal Officer