

## **RESOLUTION #09-1116-03**

### **RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN A WATERSHED PLANNING PARTNERSHIP TO DEVELOP A BALANCED GROWTH PLAN FOR THE OLENTANGY RIVER WATERSHED**

**WHEREAS**, Liberty Township, Delaware County has learned that the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is applying for a grant from the Ohio Lake Erie Commission to facilitate the development of a balanced growth plan for the watershed of the Olentangy River; and

**WHEREAS**, a portion of the Olentangy River Watershed is located within the boundaries of Liberty Township; and

**WHEREAS**, should MORPC receive said grant, it will form a Watershed Planning Partnership (WPP) of jurisdictions with planning authority within the Olentangy River Watershed, and the WPP will then work collaboratively to seek broad public input and develop a balanced growth plan for the Olentangy River Watershed based on that input; and

**WHEREAS**, the balanced growth plan developed with said grant would identify Priority Conservation Areas within the Olentangy River Watershed to protect critically important ecological, recreational, agricultural, heritage, public access, and other areas, the preservation of which would enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Liberty Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the balanced growth plan would also identify Priority Development Areas within the Olentangy River Watershed, which will be areas in which growth or redevelopment should especially be promoted and through which the economy of the region encompassed by the Olentangy River Watershed will be enhanced; and

**WHEREAS**, the balanced growth plan would also identify a variety of recommended tools and programs through which Priority Conservation Areas can be protected and enhanced while sustainable development can be driven to Priority Development Areas; and

**WHEREAS**, while the final balanced growth plan would contain recommendations only, and would not impose any mandatory requirements or limitations on Liberty Township, its effectiveness in influencing future growth and development in the Olentangy River Watershed will depend on the active participation of the jurisdictions with planning authority within the Olentangy River Watershed in the process of developing the balanced growth plan, and in attempting to implement those recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, Liberty Township desires to participate actively in the development of a balanced growth plan for the Olentangy River Watershed, MORPC should be awarded a grant to facilitate that development,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LIBERTY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEE, DELAWARE COUNTY:**

SECTION 1: That the Liberty Township Board of Trustees supports MORPC's application for funding to facilitate the development of a balanced growth plan for the Olentangy River Watershed.

SECTION 2: That if MORPC receives the requested grant, Liberty Township will participate actively in the Watershed Planning Partnership that will develop a balanced growth plan for the Olentangy River Watershed, and will make good faith efforts to implement applicable recommendations of the balanced growth plan should the Liberty Township Board of Trustees deem them appropriate, and in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and the wishes of its own citizens to protect and preserve the Olentangy River Corridor and encourage preservation and development as appropriate and identified in the various planning documents that exist and will be created by such a grant. Nothing in this Resolution or participation in the Watershed Planning Partnership shall obligate the Liberty Township Board of Trustees to impose or enforce the balanced growth plan should the Board determine in its sole discretion that such plan or any portion thereof is not in the best interest of Liberty Township.

SECTION 3: This Resolution shall be in force and become effective immediately upon its execution.

Motion made by Mann and seconded by Guzzo.

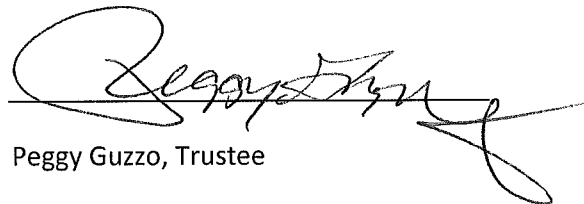
Vote: yes Ms. Guzzo yes Mr. Mann no Mr. Sybert

11-16-09

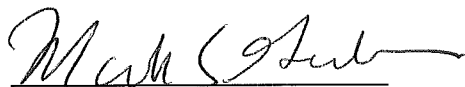
Date

  
Robert Mann, Trustee

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Curtis J. Sybert, Trustee

  
Peggy Guzzo, Trustee

CERTIFIED BY:



Mark S. Gerber, Fiscal Officer