

RESOLUTION 10-0920-09

Approve Grant Writing Agreement for Parks and Recreational trails grants

WHEREAS, Liberty Township is seeking grant monies to assist with current and upcoming projects in the Parks Department including Park Development and bike and recreational trails, and

WHEREAS, staff recommends professional assistance with grant writing and requests that the Board of Trustees approve the attached Agreement, and

WHEREAS, grant monies are extremely beneficial to the Township and its residents,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE LIBERTY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES, DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO approve the attached Agreement with Alicia Eckhard of Reconomics of Lewis Center in the amount of \$3,000 per grant plus request activities and related expenses.

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

Motion made by Sybert and seconded by Carducci.

Vote: yes Ms. Carducci yes Mr. Mann yes Mr. Sybert

9/20/10
Date

Robert Mann
Robert Mann, Trustee

Curtis J. Sybert
Curtis J. Sybert, Trustee

Mary Carducci
Mary Carducci, Trustee

CERTIFIED BY:
Mark S. Gerber
Mark S. Gerber, Fiscal Officer



Grant Writing Service Agreement

Between

Liberty Township, Ohio and
Alicia S. Eckhart, Ph.D., CPRP
REconomics ©

September 16, 2010

Mr. David Anderson, Administrator
Liberty Township
10104 Brewster Lane, Suite 125
Powell, Ohio 43065

Mr. Anderson:

It was a pleasure meeting with you this past couple of weeks to discuss your interest in pursuing 2011 park and trail development grants offered through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). As our discussions have covered, there are a number of funding possibilities available from the State of Ohio ODNR Division that would serve your direct purpose of constructing trails and improving parks. While a new trail that would connect Liberty Park to the City of Powell trail system seems to be a leading competitive choice for state funding, it is important to remember that these selected projects must also be supported by the community.

With this requirement being a large portion of the grant application, I agree with your decision to also conduct some community focus group sessions, stakeholder interviews, and public meetings. Through this complete grant application process, Liberty Township will end up with a prioritized trail development plan, estimated project costs, a mini-community needs assessment combining with four grants submitted to ODNR. Of course there are additional trails that will be identified in the process – such as, Rutherford Road, a connector to the Columbus Trail system, Carriage Hill, and Liberty Lakes to name a few – prioritization of trail development will be a key part of this overall grant funding process.

With regards to park development projects and grant funding, the community demand on Liberty Park with the addition of nearly 500 OYAA youth in the past year surely urges you to plan for future park needs. With the additional sport fields designed for that area, and the closest public restrooms nearly 50 acres away, it would be logical to pursue park development funding to coincide with these park improvements. There could also be a case made that the park serves as “Trail Hub” once the trail connector would be completed, thus generating additional support by funding agencies. There are two ODNR grants that allow for the construction of park amenities; these are listed below.

It would be my pleasure to assist you in pursuing the following funding streams for the 2011 grant cycle:

1. NatureWorks (NW), ODNR – park improvement funding
2. Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), ODNR – park improvement funding
3. Clean Ohio Trails Fund (COTF), ODNR
4. Recreational Trails Program (RTP), ODNR

The methodological process that is outlined below brings the progression of completing grant applications to score with the highest competitive rating possible. Since 2007 I have been completing grants for two specific

communities; the City of Circleville and Orange Township. As of June 2010, all work associated with the Circleville park project was completed and therefore allows me to add a new community at this time. With the proximity of Liberty Township to Orange Township, it seems to be a perfect fit. I have been working in Orange Township since 2008 as part of the Greenways and Trail Masterplan team; then contracted independently to begin pursuing funding streams for projects identified in the masterplan. As requested, I have included this grant award information at the end of this proposal for your review.

Assigned Tasks:

- ⇒ Alicia S. Eckhart, Ph.D., CPRP will be responsible for:
 - Holding of public meetings and stakeholder interviews to prioritize the communities interests in locations of future trail and park development;
 - Working with Township staff to complete necessary Township Legislation for each grant application;
 - Assist in project selection and associated costs;
 - Collection of data specific to each project's grant requirements;
 - Completion of four grant applications to the State of Ohio Department of Natural Resources prior to the deadline of February 1, 2011;
 - Pre-review of grant applications by ODNR to ensure project selection meets ODNR trail interests; and,
 - Submittal of copies for each grant to the Township Administrator for review.

Fee: \$15,000.00

- ⇒ \$15,000.00 could be separated in to two fiscal cycles:
 - \$ 5,000.00 allocated from the 2010 budget; and,
 - \$10,000.00 allocated from the 2011 budget.
- ⇒ This fee reflects the time to complete each of the four listed grants, as well as the public input gathering sessions necessary for the application.
- ⇒ Although it would be simple to state that each grant application was equal in cost, this is simply not the case.
 - The trail grants take significantly more time to complete purely due to the size of the project and, therefore, the size of the grant application.
 - Costs breakdown per grant application:
 - COTF and RTP = \$3,500.00 each
 - NW and LWCF = \$2,500.00 each
- ⇒ Community Input sessions and Stakeholder Interviews = \$3,000.00 (agreed to flat fee)
- ⇒ Invoices will be submitted by REconomics to Liberty Township on a monthly basis as stipulated in this agreement below (*payments*).

Payment for Services Rendered:

- ⇒ Payments for the 2011 grant cycle will be made on the following schedule –
 - To be received by the 7th day of each month:
 - October 2010 = \$1,000.00
 - November 2010 = \$2,000.00
 - December 2010 = \$2,000.00
 - January 2011 = \$5,000.00
 - February 2011 = \$5,000.00
- ⇒ Payments are to be made to: Alicia S. Eckhart, Ph.D., CPRP SS#297487035

Confidentiality:

Upon completion of each project, all information and data gathered from this process will be the property of Liberty Township, OH. REconomics, Dr. Alicia Eckhart, CPRP will not release any information from this project to any party without written authorization from each party. REconomics, Alicia Eckhart, Ph.D., CPRP has permission to utilize material for purposes of educational content in future educational sessions.

Out Clause or Amendments:

Either party may choose to amend this contract with written notification. The party, which chooses to alter this agreement, must clearly specify their intentions in written form sixty days prior to the start of any new business. Once new business has begun for a selected assessment, cancellation of this agreement cannot occur until the completion of the business. Additions in the form of amendments may occur with the mutual consent of both parties and must occur in writing; signed and attached to both party's copy of this agreement.

Cancellation Penalty:

Due to the amount of hours required of this project, thus prohibiting Dr. Eckhart to secure additional work, if cancellation of this agreement would occur by any Associate of Liberty Township after signing, a cancellation fee of 50% of the remaining payments would be assessed by REconomics, Alicia S. Eckhart, Ph.D., CPRP as a cancellation penalty.

Agreement:

Please indicate by signing below and return a signed copy to Dr. Eckhart that you have read the terms as outlined in this proposal and agree to engage REconomics to carry out these services.

Mr. David Anderson,
Administrator

Alicia S. Eckhart

Dr. Alicia S. Eckhart, CPRP
REconomics

Date: _____

Date: September 16, 2010



Grant Applications Completed Through 2010

(All were awarded)

Orange Township, Ohio – Grant Writer Project

10/2008 to current

Contact: Scott Overturf, Orange Township Trail Coordinator 614-204-1428 (cell)

- \$ 150,000.00 Recreational Trails Project (RTP) ODNR 2009
- \$ 274,750.00 Clean Ohio Trail Fund (COTF) ODNR 2009
- \$ 40,000.00 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) 2010
- \$ 120,000.00 Recreational Trails Project (RTP) ODNR 2010
- \$ 350,000.00 Clean Ohio Trail Fund #1 (COTF) ODNR 2010
- \$1,300,000.00 MORPC – ODOT Transportation TE Grant application submitted to assist with funding of a ped/bike “bridge” over U.S. Route 23 [*Application through 2nd round September 2010*]

Grant Writer – *this contract occurred while completing the 2008 Greenspace and Trails Masterplan.*

Pickaway County Community Foundation -- Grant Writer /Manager of Project

7/2007 to 6/2010

Contact: Gayle Spangler, PCCF Auditor, Circleville City Auditor 740-477-8251 (city office)

- \$450,000.00 Two Legislative Grant Awards “State of Ohio” 2009
- \$ 25,000.00 LWCF Grant Award ODNR 2008
- \$ 9,750.00 Natureworks Grant Award ODNR 2008
- \$600,000.00 Personal Bequeath – awarded 2008
 - An additional \$ 67,000.00 was awarded in 2009 as the estate sold additional holdings.
- \$388,000.00 Kellogg Foundation “Access to Recreation Initiative” Award 2007
- \$ 22,000.00 Soil & Water Grant Award ODNR 2007

MVCH Community Park Development Project Manager

Contracted beginning July 2007 to generate a new community park from concept to completion. Includes, fundraising (both private and grant funding), marketing, community awareness, committee management, construction management, permits, BIDS, and all other details.

Ohio Parks and Recreation Association

State of Ohio Youth Grant -- Department of Health

2005-2006

\$500,000.00 awarded by State of Ohio, Department of Health, to the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association to coordinate studies in various demographic city parks and recreation departments.

(Nine cities in Ohio participated in this pilot project.)

⇒ *Contracted by OPRA to develop all: research instrumentation; program curriculum; supervisor and staff trainings; assessment and analysis for all sites; and, coordinating final report for State of Ohio.*