

RESOLUTION 2022-18

Re: Camp Spelman Bid for Sale

- WHEREAS:** The Portage Park District passed RESOLUTION 2022-12 on March 28, 2022, describing the current conditions of the Camp Spelman and directing the Executive Director to investigate options for the sale or transfer of Camp Spelman, including consultation with legal counsel and the Portage County Probate Court Judge, and providing information to affected landowners in the area, and
- WHEREAS:** Letters have been sent to neighbors, Franklin Township and Sugarbush Knolls Village describing the existing conditions of Camp Spelman and providing notice of the Park District's intention to relieve itself of the liability, cost and management issues surrounding shared ownership of the dam and lake, and
- WHEREAS:** There has been very little demand for the free use of Camp Spelman by permitted civic groups since the Park District has owned it, the former deteriorated structures have been removed, and in recent years other nearby park facilities have been developed and are experiencing high visitation, and
- WHEREAS:** With ODNR's Class I designation of the dam and the concomitant liability and necessary continued investment of public funds, the Board of Commissioners does not desire to maintain the dam and lake, and
- WHEREAS:** The conservation values of Camp Spelman can be permanently preserved through the placement of a conservation easement on the property, which is enforceable by the easement holder on any owner of the property into the future, NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED:** The Portage Park District Board of Commissioners hereby:
1. Determines that Park District ownership of the Camp Spelman property is not necessary for the purposes for which it was originally acquired which included continuance of its historic use as a site for civic groups to use for permitted primitive picnicking, recreation and camping.
 2. Authorizes the Executive Director to petition the Portage County Probate Court for approval to sell and dispose of the land.
 3. Authorizes the Executive Director to give the required public notice of the Board's intention to sell the land, as-is, with all rights and responsibilities, to the highest and best bidder, reserving the option to reject any or all bids.
 4. Authorizes the Executive Director to draft a conservation easement with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy to be recorded prior to transfer of the property, with associated fees to be paid by the buyer.

Upon a motion by Hrdy and second by Ruehr, the vote was as follows:

Scott McKinney Yes; Allan Orashan absent; Tom Hrdy Yes; Charles Engelhart Yes; Kurt Ruehr Yes

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution passed and action taken in an open meeting on May 23, 2022

Christine Craycroft
Christine Craycroft, Executive Director