

URGENT ACTION NEEDED

Judge Grendell has been making contact with individuals he believes are influential in various subgroups of our coalition. He makes representations to them that he will personally see that the by-laws are amended to take care of their individual concerns. Some of the promises are not within his power to control -- they are Ohio state law issues . Further we do not believe he is within his authority to make promises on behalf of the Park Board. This is an obvious attempt to splinter our group; we must remain united until we have seen the revised by-laws and they have been voted on by the Board of the Geauga County Park District. First, we should decline to talk outside of the public forum; Second, please let us know of any contact the judge makes with you. We may very well get what we want, but that has not happened yet. We all need to be there for the next board meeting in September to see what happens and have a voice. The revised by-laws are in effect NOW!

Meanwhile here is a proactive step everyone can help with:

Please sign the attached petition and circulate and sign among your workplace, friends, family, neighborhood, church, etc. If everyone commits to getting 20-50 signatures we will quickly acquire an impressive number of signatures to present to the board. We are looking to circulate it widely in Geauga County but to others that come here and love our parks. First, look at it and see if you can get friends and neighbors to sign it. (It has no legal significance but would carry a certain moral weight.) Second, can you identify a group or groups that you belong to and that you would act as our ambassador to . We are thinking of meetings of groups like Ducks Unlimited, FOE, Rotary, your church, both political parties, Garden groups, informal birding groups, Western Reserve Land Conservancy, Blackbrook Audubon, Kirtland Bird Club, the Ohio Horsemen Associations. Others? Please email us the groups you think of to which you will be our ambassador.

Attached is both a pdf petition and Word document showing the approved by-law changes and the original wording letting you inform people who were unaware of the situation. Address to which you can mail the petition is at the bottom of the petition. Try to have your petitions by Aug. 28. We will be scheduling another meeting on Aug. 23 (Saturday) Time and location TBA.