VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS RESOLUTION 2018-09

CREATING A PERMANENT GLASS FARM CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs previously created a detention pond on the property known as the Glass Farm; and

WHEREAS, a colony of beaver arrived on the Glass Farm, making their home and creating a wetland and a serene location for all to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, the Village partnered with the Tecumseh Land Trust to obtain a grant to restore the area to a native habitat by removing invasive species, planting native species and placing the area under a permanent conservation easement; and

WHEREAS, many and varied species of plants and animals, including birds, have made this habitat their home; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of the Glass Farm Wetland area is important to the citizens of the Village of Yellow Springs and also conforms with the general values of the Village regarding greenspace and conservation; and

WHEREAS, the continued maintenance of the Glass Farm Wetland is important to all concerned but requires a concerted effort over the years; and

WHEREAS, many residents have volunteered time and funding to create and maintain this area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Village of Yellow Springs does hereby

Section 1. Create a Glass Farm Conservation Area Management Committee, to be comprised as and operate in the manner described in Exhibit A hereto affixed.

Section 2. Said Management Committee shall manage the Glass Farm Conservation Area in accordance with direction provided by Council and in harmony with achieving all of Council stated goals.

| Marianne MacQueen, Vice Pres | sident of Council | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Passed: 5-7-2018 | | |
| Attest: | | |
| Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council | | |
| ROLL CALL: | | |
| Brian Housh _Absent | Marianne MacQueenY | Judith Hempfling _Absent |
| Kevin StokesY | Lisa Kreeger _ | Y |

March 13, 2018

EC Proposal for the Creation of a Management Mechanism for the Glass Farm Wetlands and Prairie

The Environmental Commission of the Village collaborated with Tecumseh Land Trust to re-naturalize the wetlands and a prairie on the eastern edge of the Village-owned Glass Farm property. This work was done in part through the use of funds from a Clean Ohio grant. As that work draws to a close and the grant commitments finalized, it is time to decide how to manage the 8+ acre area on an ongoing basis.

Below are the recommendations from the Environmental Commission to the Yellow Springs Village Council:

- Empower the Beaver Management Task Force (BMTF) to take on these duties under the joint auspices of the Village Manager and the Environmental Commission, following the approach laid out in the Beaver Management Plan.
- Membership is recommended to include a minimum of 3 neighbors, at least one EC member, at least one local teacher or professor, the Village Manager or her designee, and the Council liaison to the Environmental Commission for a total of 7 to 9 members.

The current membership of the BMTF includes:

1. Becca Eastman McKinney Middle School teacher; neighbor

2. Tom Dietrich EC member; neighbor

3. Rick Donahoe neighbor

4. Vickie Hennessy Chair; biologist

5. Brian Kot Biology professor Antioch College

6. Marianne MacQueen Council liaison7. Chad Runyon neighbor

8. Bettina Solas Stolsenberg EC member; neighbor

- 9. Require one additional member to serve as a representative of village staff (replacement for Jason Hamby) *Will be recommended by Village Manager, Patti Bates.
- The purpose of this new committee will be to manage and maintain the 8+ acres zoned conservation at the Glass Farm including the wetlands, potential beavers, the prairie, and surrounding terrestrial habitat. This will include such tasks as:
 - 1. Maintaining the prairie by annual mowing (to be done by village staff) in early spring.
 - 2. Ongoing removal of invasive species, i.e. honeysuckle, Callery pear, using specialized tools and avoiding herbicide use.
 - 3. Mowing primary paths as needed.
 - 4. Cleaning and maintaining benches and signage.
 - 5. Maintaining beaver flow devices as needed.
 - 6. Managing beaver related tree damage, flooding, stagnant water and mosquitoes.
 - 7. Encouraging and working with Yellow Springs Schools, as well as Antioch College, to utilize this space for the study of wetland conservation, wildlife and species diversity, aquatic parameters, and other scientific investigation.
 - 8. Starting with baseline studies, work with Yellow Springs Schools and Antioch College to maintain a record of data collected in the wetlands and surrounding region over time to support its ongoing evolution and further research

The committee will meet on an as needed basis but at least twice a year.