

**Big Darby Accord
Open Space Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary**

Thursday, April 24, 2008
9:00 a.m.
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Scioto Conference Room
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215

Members Present

R. Lee Brown	Tracy Hatmaker	Hector Santiago
Beth Clark	Adrienne Joly	Anthony Sasson
Mary Ann Core	Matt LaMantia	Erin Sherer
Deb Crosby	Steve Malone	Steve Studenmund
Jennifer Fish	Erin Miller	Ben Weiner
Bob Fletcher	John O'Meara	Kyle Wilson
Martha Gilson	Malcolm Porter	

Introduction

Chair Anthony Sasson brought the second meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee to order at 9:10 am. Thanks were extended to Beth Clark for the gavel and to MORPC for hosting the meeting followed by a brief review of the agenda.

Franklin County mentioned that the county has adopted stream set back regulations in the Accord in accordance with the EPA and is in place for county zoning resolutions.

Overview of Big Darby Accord Framework

Beth Clark reviewed the structure of the Accord. There are six jurisdictions that have adopted the Big Darby Accord. "Off-shoot" groups that work with the Accord include Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel, The Big Darby Accord Open Space Advisory Committee, the Client group that is working on the Town Center Master Plan, Revenue Generation Sub-group, Zoning Sub-group; not a group, but reported is regulations on post construction monitoring, another area receiving attention is the issue of alternative waste water treatment and systems. These areas are continually updates and meeting minutes are available on the website; www.bigdarbyaccord.org.

OSAC Purpose Statement Affirmation

Vice Chair Malcolm Porter reviewed the statement from the Accord, all agreed that it is a fair statement that can give the committee direction. It was decided to add "Federal" to the last statement and to include restoration in the statement. The statement as previously stood was thought to be limiting if identifying individual items and restoration should be included under the umbrella of conservation; all agreed with the statement with less stringent means of approval.

Big Darby Open Space Advisory Committee Purpose Statement

The Open Space Advisory Committee's (OSAC) purpose is to provide guidance to the Big Darby Accord partners on open space acquisition, funding, and other conservation and restoration efforts as outlined in the Conservation Strategy of the Big Darby Accord. Additionally, OSAC will monitor and report on other conservation efforts in the accord area and provide the forums to educate residents and landowners in the accord area on the conservation strategy and process. This ad hoc council consists of representatives of local jurisdictions, county, state and federal agencies, and representatives of the private and non-profit sectors.

Further details are available from the Accord document; page 5.4.

Status Updates

1. GIS System

Matt LaMantia prepared and presented updated maps that were available through the MORPC data, pulling 12 layers together and putting them into one map. Matt stated that the maps will be available on-line along with all meeting summaries, maps and an MP3 version of the entire meeting. Hector Santiago offered aid from Ohio Department of Natural Resources in further updates for maps; it was suggested that they contact Cheri Mansperger at MORPC. If anyone notices corrections that need to be made, please contact Matt LaMantia. When information is received, Matt will check accuracy of the information along with input from other departments regarding boundaries. PDF's maps and layer inventory will be available on-line along with Matt sending them to the committee.

2. Acquisition Entities

Jennifer Fish presented an update on entities that are currently involved in the Big Darby Accord. A chart was submitted to the committee reviewing and summarizing the existing acquisition resources, if anyone is aware of more information, it is asked that they let Jennifer know. John O'Meara suggested adding Hilliard and Pleasant Townships, Tracy Hatmaker suggested broadening the list to include local governments who may own land. Anthony Sasson suggested that most relevant entities be included and suggested that Prairie Township be added. It was suggested to continue expanding the list with the possibility of having it available to the public along with a data base holding as much information on the acquisitions as possible.

3. Funding Programs and Opportunities

Hector Santiago submitted a chart to the committee and high-lighted some funding opportunities and organizations in the area. It was suggested that local governments be included such as; local jurisdictions and Metro Parks, Local Clean Ohio Fund for Conservation Purposes in Legislation, Franklin County Communities existing for conservancy, local government dollars, EPA and Water Treatment rules, Carbon Trading – a voluntary cap on carbon emissions and the AEP Increasing Forestry Program.

Open Space Acquisition Prioritization Visioning

Tier One – Emphasized

5600 acres; it is assumed that Tier 1 is a baseline. But are these the right properties to place at the top. Common points need to be made, or should more be added. Priority must be made as to how money is spent in the Accord and what will this committee do in regards to this.

Currently, the wetland information is based on old information; it was decided that the committee begin setting new guidelines.

Tier 1 should be more defined and will it benefit the end goal. Factors affecting this are on page 47 of the Accord document; including flood plains, pollution potential and riparian issues.

Issues include land prices differing in the tier lands in the future. It was suggested that top 10 areas be prioritized and current land owners and parcels be identified and concentrate on certain parcels at a time. A suggestion was made of a scoring sheet to rate the properties in question. This tool will be helpful in pre-planning, identifying potential future properties, and may aid in recommendations for other committees working with the Accord.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2008 at 9:00 in the Scioto Meeting Room at MORPC.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.