

Approved
Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Merger Study Commission
Meeting
Minutes
May 5, 2010

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mike Shank, Co-Chairperson of the Merger Study Commission.
2. Mr. Shank called the roll with Commission members Linda Hummel, Tom Frantz, Donna Hellmann, Howard Ackerman, Joan Gallagher and Ron Folkerth present. Bill Berry and Sam Staley were not present. Charlie Schwegman arrived shortly after roll call.
3. Others present were, Scott Bryant, Cindy Porter, Harold Rodgers, Jim Tharpe, Ben Rader and Jason Bowman.
4. The minutes from the April 7, 2010 meeting had been circulated and were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Gallagher to approve the minutes. Mr. Frantz seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion passed

The minutes from the April 12, 2010 Work Session had been circulated and were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Hellmann to approve the minutes. Mr. Folkerth seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion passed

5. Barry Tiffany was not present to give a preliminary discussion of the Annexation Impact Study. Mrs. Gallagher summarized the directive from the April 12, 2010 Work Session which tasked Dr. Sam Staley to meet with Mr. Tiffany to arrange an Annexation Impact Study. Dr. John Blair an Economist from Wright State was scheduled to act as an External Reviewer. Mr. Tiffany will have a Preliminary Annexation Impact Study at the June 2, 2010 meeting. This report will be sent to Dr. Blair for his review.
6. Next on the agenda was the Draft of the Conditions of Merger. At the April 12, 2010 Work Session Mrs. Gallagher volunteered to start working on a MSC Final Report and Conditions of Merger for Bellbrook-Sugarcreek modeled after the Vandalia-Butler merger study effort. The Vandalia-Butler Final Report included a letter to the voters from the Merger Study Co-chairs as well as the

Conditions of Merger. The Vandalia-Butler document was clear and concise which would lend itself to being both an informational document and a representation of what voters would find on the ballot for the November general election.

Mrs. Gallagher indicated that she had distributed hard copies and sent e-mail copies of this draft to the Commissioners asking for any additions or corrections. Mr. Schwegman was confused as to Final Report being included in the title of the draft. Mr. Shank replied that the draft was the Merger Study Commission's final report, not the consultant Mercer's final report. Mr. Ackerman had sent corrections to the Conditions of Merger in Article 1, General Conditions and Article 7, Finances which were noted. Mr. Schwegman commented on Article 2, Government and Representation. He said that he would like to see if political wards could be established. Mr. Shank commented that he didn't like the idea since the populations in Bellbrook and Sugarcreek were almost equal. Mrs. Gallagher asked Mr. Rader in the audience to comment on his experience as a Bellbrook resident, who was elected as a Sugarcreek Township Trustee in the early 1980s. Mr. Shank said that he had talked to Dr. Staley concerning finances for a merged Bellbrook-Sugarcreek for clarification on Revenue Neutral. Dr. Staley indicated that Expense Neutral would also have to be considered. Mrs. Gallagher asked for Commission members to review the hard copy and e-mail she had distributed, then make any corrections, deletions, additions and suggestions for the May 12, 2010 Work Session.

7. Payment of Invoices: Mrs. Gallagher noted that she approved payment of Transcriber Christy Phillip's invoice for the March 3 and April 7, 2010 MSC meetings, for two hours and three hours respectively. There was also the customary xeroxing for the current MSC meeting
8. Meeting Schedule: Reminder of Regular Meetings: June 2, July 7 and August 4. Work Sessions were scheduled for May 12 and May 26, 2010
9. Web Page Reminder: Approved minutes of the Merger Study Commission's Regular meetings and Work Sessions continue to be posted on the website mergerstudy.com.
10. Public Comment.

Mr. Bowman commented on the legality of the Conditions of Merger. He also challenged the authority of the Merger Study Commission to vote and place the Merger with Conditions of Merger on the General Election Ballot in November 2010. Mr. Shank responded that the Merger Study Commission was elected in November 2008 to do just that, according to the Ohio Revised Code. The sections of the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to this topic are 709.43 through 709.48.

11. Mr. Shank asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Hummell made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.