

Why Metropark Sites Under Fire

By TIM RICHARD

For years, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority has been in the quiet business of building pretty, green parks for the people of five southeastern Michigan counties to enjoy.

But in the last few months, HCMA has found itself under intense political attack because of where it wants to develop parks and their size.

Leading the attack is Wayne County Board Chairman Robert FitzPatrick, a Detroit Democrat whose business is in Livonia. He contends HCMA "needs a change in its concept of size of parks, in the direction of where it builds them, and in the board itself."

His unlikely allies are farmers and rural residents of Washtenaw and Macomb counties. They don't want to see HCMA take land off the tax rolls.

In one funny way, FitzPatrick and the farmers are in sharp disagreement. FitzPatrick contends HCMA is seeking to develop its next series of metroparks too far into the hinterlands for Detroit and suburban Wayne

County residents to enjoy. The farmers and rural residents oppose HCMA plans because they don't want hundreds of city folks causing traffic jams.

The issue is coming to a head in the executive committee of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments where a recommendation for federal funding of a proposed Mill Creek metropark is stalled.

Officially, SEMCOG's position so far is that the project shouldn't proceed until a water quality question is cleared up. HCMA proposes to impound Mill Creek, a tributary of the Huron River in Lima and Freedom townships in southwestern Washtenaw County.

FitzPatrick would go much further than that. He and other Wayne County commissioners contend HCMA should spend its money closer to the urban core; specifically, they ask, some HCMA contribution to Detroit's Belle Isle park in the middle of the Detroit River.

"It's not a water quality question," FitzPatrick said in the Mill Creek proposal. "It's a priorities question."

Regional Affairs

The (HCMA) won't even discuss Belle Isle."

The Wayne County board chairman argued that HCMA worked closely with Washtenaw County officials in developing the Mill Creek proposal but not with Wayne officials, and how they're saying both Wayne and Washtenaw will benefit from Mill Creek.

To HCMA's contention that there are few large tracts of land available for metroparks in Wayne County, FitzPatrick replies: "The law setting up HCMA was passed in 1939. Surely, there were areas in Wayne County then that could have been HCMA parks."

FitzPatrick also opposes two other HCMA proposals for a new generation of parks—Indian Springs in northern Oakland County, and North Branch in Ray of the Mill Creek proposal.

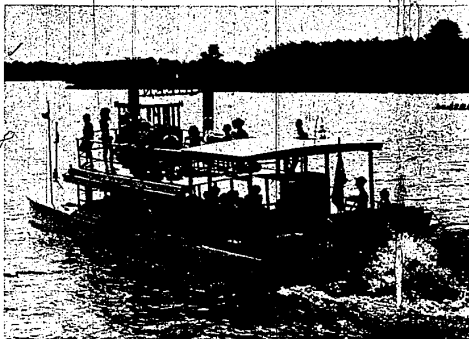
strongman in the HCMA operation. Would FitzPatrick and other county officials support HCMA if it tried a second time to ask the public for a quarter-mill property tax for parks?

He hesitated, then: "Because of the results of the previous election, people seem to feel they're overtaxed. They want something for their money. I don't think it would pass."

The additional quarter-mill is an important question. When the proposal was on the 1972 ballot, HCMA said it would redevelop Belle Isle, among other projects, if voters approved. Voters rejected it.

Huron and Wayne County and Detroit officials support a State House bill to expand the size of HCMA's board and reappoint it on something resembling a "one-man, one-vote" basis.

The 1939 law setting up HCMA provides for one representative from each of the five member counties and two appointed at large by the governor. Wayne County's population is about 2.7 million and Livingston's about 60,000.



THE ISLAND QUEEN makes another of her 45-minute tours of 22 miles of Kent Lake shoreline in Kensington Metropark. The replica of an old Mississippi riverboat makes the trips Wednesdays through Sundays from noon through 6 p.m.

LaRue Leads S'craft Board

John LaRue was unanimously elected to a second term as chairman of the Schoolcraft College board.

Mrs. Raymond, who has been chairman since Dr. Robert Goske left the post in January to become a state representative.

LaRue's election was unanimous. Mrs. Raymond, vice chairman for the past two-year term, was nominated by new trustee Gerald Cox but turned down the post with the barbed statement:

"I have served a term as vice chairman and believe it would be well to pass the responsibilities around among the trustees." Mrs. Blatt won 7-1 over Mrs. Raymond, who was nominated again by Dr. Cox. Paul Kadish, previously the board's treasurer. He recently won re-election.



JOHN La RUE

Succeeding Kadish as treasurer was Nancie Blatt, appointed to the board last winter and elected in her own right in June.

Mrs. Blatt won 7-1 over Mrs. Raymond, who was nominated again by Dr. Cox. Paul Kadish, previously the board's treasurer. He recently won re-election.

again Mrs. Raymond declined. The post went unanimously to Mrs. Clara Rousseau, administrative assistant to college President C. Nelson Grote.

Thus, all three officer posts filled by board members went to Livonia School District residents. Five of the eight trustees are residents of the Livonia district, with a little more than half the population of the college district.

Monday's meeting lasted only about a quarter of an hour in contrast to the organizational meeting of two years ago, when the board balloted a half-dozen times before picking a chairman.

Outside non-partisan board activities, LaRue, Kadish and Mrs. Blatt all have strong connections with the liberal wing of the Democratic Party. Two years ago, the posts were split 2-2 between known Republicans and known Democrats.

SC's Agency Shop Problem Resolved

Schoolcraft President C. Nelson Grote told college trustees that a problem which the board had debated at length was resolved by the State Legislature.

The problem was a court decision invalidating the agency shop clauses in employment contracts. The board discussed implications of the court decision at two successive meetings before the Legislature acted.

The Legislature passed a bill which permits agency shop clauses in public employment contracts. The State Supreme Court had earlier outlawed the clause because it was not specifically provided for in the Public Employment Relations Act.

Agency shop, which is included in all Schoolcraft contracts, requires an employee either to join the union, pay a service fee comparable to union dues, or lose his job.

Schoolcraft trustees had been advised by their legal counsel to hold union dues and agency fees in escrow until a clarification of the court decision was made.

Trustees released the fees to the unions but warned them that parts of their contracts may have had to be renegotiated because of the court decision.

Trustee Rosina Raymond was the only one who voted against giving the warning to employee groups because she said the State Legislature would resolve the problem for them.

The bill to permit agency shop provisions for public employees passed the State Senate with support from Sens. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth), Daniel Cooper (D-Oak Park), William Faust (D-Westland) and David Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights).

The bill passed the House Eight Southfield residents were recently elected to the Gamma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, national scholastic honorary fraternity, at Wayne State University. They were: Joan Asarnow

SC Awards Contracts Of \$17,300

The Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees awarded bids totaling \$17,300 for equipment and property improvements.

The college awarded Apollo Asphalt Co. of Livonia a \$5,000 contract for asphalt paving in front of the college day care center and accounting office and a parking area.

It also awarded a nearly \$9,000 contract to International Business Machines Corp. for purchase of 21 electric typewriters. The cost for this bid will be defrayed by selling the 21 electric typewriters which are to be replaced.

M & M Typewriter service was awarded a maintenance contract for 127 typewriters at a cost of \$3,300 for the fiscal year.

Schoolcraft Sets Regular Study Sessions

In adopting a new set of by-laws, the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees has set regular study sessions the second Wednesday of every month.

The college trustees will meet the second Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the board room of the college administration meeting. Previously study sessions were called when needed.

The study sessions can be rescheduled by board motion or by request of the board chairman.

Shortly after adopting the new by-laws, the board voted to reschedule July's study session to 8 p.m. on July 9 rather than July 11. The change was made at the administration's request. Trustees will examine proposed changes in personnel insurance program.

8 Elected To PBK

SOUTHFIELD Eight Southfield residents were recently elected to the Gamma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, national scholastic honorary fraternity, at Wayne State University. They were: Joan Asarnow

of Birch Run; Michael Bind of Selkirk; Bruce Forman of Shoreman Dr.; James Livernore of Laurel Valley; Andrea Norman of Hilton Dr.; Jennifer Scott of Muir Dr.; Howard Sullivan of Shewington; and Stuart Kaufman of Independence Dr.

Schoolcraft's Budget College Continuum Continued

By KATHY MORAN

Adoption of Schoolcraft College's \$6.9 million budget Wednesday brought a sigh of relief from citizens interested in continuation of the women's continuum.

The continuum and other community service programs will be continued next year under a special \$100,000 grant approved by both houses of the State Legislature. The continuum, under the direction of Nancy Dufour, has offered programs for women on careers and has featured several speakers.

College trustees adopted the budget after a public hearing attended by about 15 citizens, mostly women interested in the continuum's fate. The budget reflects an 11 per cent increase over the 1972-73 revised budget of \$6.3 million.

Originally, the college approved a \$6.6 million budget last year but it was revised downward after a decline in student enrollment and, therefore, state appropriations and tuition.

Community colleges receive state appropriations based on the number of stu-

INCOME		EXPENDITURES	
Local Tax	\$2,194,970	Instruction	\$4,239,272
Tuition & Fees	1,781,375	Student Services	735,906
State Appropriation	2,662,700	General Administration	420,118
State Special Grant	100,000	Business Operations	384,219
Federal Grants (VEA)	180,000	Plant Operations	997,131
Other Income	44,550	Contingency	108,454
Transfer (Reserve)	12,000	Transfers	1,495
	\$6,995,595	State Special Grant	100,000
			\$6,985,595

dents enrolled and the number of credit hours taken. In the new budget, state appropriations total \$2.7 million, or 40 per cent of the budget.

The appropriations represent an 8.2 per cent increase over last year.

The college will continue to levy 1.77 voted property tax mills which will produce \$2.2 million in local revenue for operations and \$373,000 for debt retirement.

The \$2.2 million for operations reflects a 22 per cent increase over last year. This large percentage is due to an

8.2 per cent increase in state equalized valuation and the use of a smaller percentage of the revenue for debt retirement. Last year the college allocated \$758,600 for retiring the bonds compared to \$573,000 this year.

General student fees will bring in \$1.8 million in revenue, a four per cent increase over last year.

Schoolcraft President C. Nelson Grote noted that 94 per cent of the college's budget is composed of fixed costs.

A total of 85 per cent, or \$5.9 million, is for salaries

for all college employees. Another nine per cent is fixed costs such as rent, utilities and insurance.

Expenditures are listed as \$4.2 million for instruction, \$735,900 for student services, \$420,100 for general administration; \$384,200 for business operations and \$997,100 for plant operations.

The college will keep about one per cent of the budget, or \$70,000 in a contingency fund for emergencies.

The special state grant of \$100,000 will be used to finance the women's contin-

uum, senior adult affairs of life and information and instruction center in Garden City.

The appropriation bill specifically states that this will be the last year the college receives the grant. The grant was obtained by Sen. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth) for Schoolcraft after appropriations were less than anticipated.

It was uncertain whether the grant would be continued this year. The college had threatened to either discontinue or reduce the continuum and senior adult programs if the grant were eliminated or reduced. Both programs and the Garden City extension office were in limbo last year with receipt of the grant.

The college trustees also approved auxiliary budgets totaling \$338,000. The budget includes programs which generate revenue and are partially or fully self-supporting.

These programs include the day care center, cultural program, college store, food services, student activities and community services institutes and workshops.

Cheboygan Park Small, But Don't Overlook It

Cheboygan is among Michigan's smallest state parks, both in size and attendance, yet its future potential is almost unlimited, according to Automobile Club of Michigan.

The park is now only partially developed, offering only 78 campsites. Although modern, with electricity, they seldom fill on weekends during the camping season.

In 1972, third smallest among the 30 parks in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Region II, which includes those across the upper half of the Lower Peninsula.

Yet few offer such fine opportunity for picnicking, nature study and viewing scenery, all combined with camping.

Located three miles northeast of Cheboygan off US-20 on Lake Huron's Duncan Bay, the entire park covers 922 acres. Much of it is pine, spruce and cedar forest, a virtual wilderness. Campers get privacy and shade at many sites built on gravel pads among the cedar.

The day use beach along Duncan Bay five miles to the west offers the best swimming. At this point the beach is sandy and swimming is fine for children. A

lifeguard is on duty. Hiking is popular, both along the shoreline and the forest trails.

There is fishing in the bay for perch, pike and bass, while the nearby Cheboygan River is good for walleyes. Brook trout are found in Little Elliott Creek, a small stream between US-23 and the campground.

Calculator, Scholarships Given To SC

Schoolcraft College trustees awarded scholarship donations totaling \$350 as well as a calculator donated to the college.

Ralph Lendini of Plymouth donated a Friden calculator valued at \$350 for use in the civil technology program.

Scholarship donations included \$200 from the Schoolcraft College Women's Club which will be put in the short-term loan fund.

The American Association of University Women donated \$150 for the Jane K. Moehle scholarship fund. Mrs. Moehle is a Plymouth teacher and former chairman of the college board.

for recreation, fun... try a

STATE PARK

CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK

THE COMBINATION OF A BIG LAKE AND PINE, CEDAR AND SPRUCE FORESTS GIVE CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK GREAT FUTURE POTENTIAL. IT IS ONLY PARTIALLY DEVELOPED. THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF CHEBOYGAN OFF US-23 ON LAKE HURON'S DUNCAN BAY, THE 932-ACRE PARK NOW OFFERS

FINE OPPORTUNITY FOR BATHING, PICNICKING, CAMPING, NATURE STUDY AND VIEWING SCENERY. THERE IS FISHING IN THE LAKE FOR PERCH, PIKE AND BASS WHILE THE NEARBY CHEBOYGAN RIVER IS GOOD FOR WALLEYES. THE 78 CAMPSITES, WHICH Seldom FILL, ARE MODERN, WITH ELECTRICITY.

EACH YEAR BEFORE STARTING OUT WITH YOUR TRAILER, ASK YOUR DEALER TO MAKE THESE SAFETY CHECKS: LIGHTS, CONNECTIONS, HEATER, STOVE AND REFRIGERATOR. THE COST ABOUT \$15. WILL SAVE YOU TIME, MONEY AND A LIFE ON THE HIGHWAY OR IN CAMP.

Bring 'em back ALIVE!

DO NOT FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWNERS.