

ASHTABULA COUNTY METROPARKS
25 West Jefferson Street, Jefferson, OH 44047

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday January 11, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Ashtabula County Metroparks Board of Commissioners was held at the Board Office meeting room at 91 N. Chestnut Street in Jefferson, Ohio and called to order at 6:34 pm by Paul Carpenter, President. Board Members in attendance and completing a quorum were: Paul Carpenter, President; Bob Best, Vice President; Terry Berkey, Member, Charlie Kohli, Member, and Marie Lane, Member. Larry Frimerman, Executive Director and Pam Blough, Clerk were also in attendance.

Business at Hand:

1. The December Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve Minutes by Lane, Second by Kohli. All approved. Motion passed
2. Introduction of Guests: Tim Martin, County Engineer, and JP Ducro, County Commissioner. See below.
3. December financials were reviewed. Motion to accept financials by Kohli; second by Berkey. All approved. Motion passed.
4. Director reviewed expense worksheet with the Board. Motion by Kohli to approve bills/expenses, second by Berkey. All approved. Motion passed.
5. The following Resolutions were presented and passed by unanimous vote.
 - o 2017-001 Authorizing application for Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Grant Funding for Red Brook Preserve. Moved by Lane; second by Berkey. Call of the Roll: Best, aye; Carpenter, aye; Kohli, aye; Berkey, aye; Lane, aye. Resolution passed by unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum.
 - o 2017-002 Authorizing application for Transportation Alternative Funding for construction phase of the North Shore Trail. Moved by Best; second by Berkey. Call of the Roll: Best, aye; Carpenter, aye; Kohli, aye; Berkey, aye; Lane, aye. Resolution passed by unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum.
 - o 2017-003 Authorizing application for Ohio Parks & Recreation Foundation Development Grant for Operations Projects. Moved by Best; second by Berkey. Call of the Roll: Best, aye; Carpenter, aye; Kohli, aye; Berkey, aye; Lane, aye. Resolution passed by unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum.
 - o 2017-004 Authorizing application to the Ashtabula Foundation for Lampson Reservoir Park project. Moved by Lane; second by Kohli. Call of the Roll: Best, aye; Carpenter, aye; Kohli, aye; Berkey, aye; Lane, aye. Resolution passed by unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum.
 - o 2017-005 Authorizing application for Ohio Parks & Recreation Foundation Administrative Grant for Promotional Projects. Moved by Best; second by Lane. Call of the Roll: Best, aye; Carpenter, aye; Kohli, aye; Berkey, aye; Lane, aye. Resolution passed by unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum.
6. Lane Nominated Carpenter for 2017 Board President. Carpenter accepted nomination. Best 2nd. All in favor: unanimous. Motion passed.
7. Kohli Nominated Best for 2017 Board Vice President. Best accepted nomination. Berkey seconds. All in favor: Ayes: 3; Abstain: 2. Motion carried by majority, constituting a quorum.

Audience Participation is limited to three minutes each and the Board thanks them for their input:

Tim Martin, County Engineer: Again stated in his opinion that the drainage issue on the trail at W 52nd Street was not caused by the trail and is no fault of Ashtabula City. Mr. Martin then discussed a dedication of a roadway 60' wide that was created in the 1800's that runs from Route 45 to Route 307 near Lampson Reservoir. There is no record of vacation of said road. The roadway still exists of record. If a right of way to connect trails is going to be considered; the County Commissioners can vacate and rededicate as a 30 foot right of way. The resident that asked Mr. Martin to check into the records should speak to her neighbors regarding a collaborative effort.

JP Ducro, County Commissioner: Introduced himself to the Board. Stated he was assigned by the other Commissioners to be the liaison to the Metroparks Board. He is happy to assume the role and looks forward to attending future meetings and events.

Joyce Bond, past Metroparks Board Commissioner: has recently retired from her job with CT Consultants; would like to offer some volunteer hours to the Metroparks Advisory Committee. She is also working with Atech Students who are studying horticulture and restoration and would like to assist the Metroparks if possible.

Jaclyn Krysa, Advisory Council Member: Attending to observe and sign up for a committee.

Director's Report:

- Mr. Frimerman has not heard anything back from the Ashtabula County Sheriff regarding a security contract. Mr. Carpenter stated the Grand River Trail riders will pay for winter trail security as needed.
- Mr. Frimerman asked the Board if they wanted to use an employment agency to hire the Operations Director or advertise and interview ourselves. Board decided to have the Director do the advertising and interviewing. A search should start next month.
- WRRSP Update: Mr. Frimerman and Mr. Best worked on property proposals to submit for the January 1st deadline on the last round; decision to defer the application for the July round to add property and better utilize the grant dollars.
- A Clean Ohio Grant will be submitted by Western Reserve Land Conservancy for Redbrook Preserve.
- Advisory Council Update: Two working committees have been formed. Trail Development and Maintenance; Brett Bellas will Chair. Plans to have Blakeslee, Hatches and Lampson Reservoir trails roughed in by March. Mark Winchell and Kristy Belaney will Co-Chair Programs and Projects. Working groups will form and discuss options before a formal meeting of the full group convenes.
- Eyring property needs a survey for the proper location and placement of a parking lot.
- Vehicle acquisition(s) for 2017. Discussion of needs/type. Mr. Frimerman will check on specs and advertise requests for proposals.

New Business:

1. Mr. Frimerman handed out a list of proposed 2017 Goals for the Board to review and comment on at the next meeting/work session.
2. A Volunteer, Friends, and Officials meet and greet open house should be scheduled next month. An after-work open house at the Board Office with light refreshments will be organized.
3. OPRA Conference will be held February 12th -15th in Sandusky. If any Board Members would like to attend- please advise the Director.

Old Business:

1. Lutheran Camp sale will be closing this week; utilities run about \$200.00 per month. Is there water? Sewer/Septic? Cost of heating oil? Gas to house? Liability insurance is currently about \$5,000 year per WRLC. Union Railroad sale is pending.
2. NST Tap Funds-CDC will cover the design and engineer portion of the monies not covered by the Grant; as reported by the Director.
3. Volunteer Recognition Dinner to be held January 12th 2017.

Moved to go into Executive Session at 8:30pm by Mr. Carpenter to discuss land acquisition. Second by Kohli. Call of the Roll: Berkey, aye; Best, aye; Kohli, aye; Carpenter, aye; Lane, aye.

Back into regular meeting at 9:05pm.

Motion by Mr. Berkey to purchase property proposed by Mr. Best at 395 Creek Road for \$10,000 plus costs. Second by Mr. Kohli. All in favor. Motion passed.

Adjourn: There being no further business; Mr. Berkey moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:05pm. Ms.Lane seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: January 18, 2017 @ 6:30pm 91 N Chestnut St Jefferson
January 25th meeting has been cancelled.

Minutes to be approved: February 2017

Paul Carpenter, President/Chair (or representative)

Pam Blough, Clerk