

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday March 15th, 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 6:35 pm by Paul Carpenter, President. Board Members attending 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 February Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Kohli, Second by Berkey. All approved. Motion passed
2. Director reviewed expense worksheet with the Board. Motion by Kohli to approve bills/expenses, second by Lane. All approved. Motion passed.
3. January Financial Report was reviewed. Kohli motioned to accept. Second by Lane. All in favor. Motion passed.

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

Director's Report:

- Lampson Reservoir: we are working on draining the wet areas of the park to enable the construction of trails and walkways. County Engineer, OEPA and Soil and Water have given their support and cooperation. Mr. Frimerman marked trees for removal to be done by March 31.
- Camp Peet now has a HCA portable restroom; the Health Department has approved an outhouse site. The Eagle Scout Adirondack Project has been cancelled. EPA and other approvals would take too long for the project to be completed in the time allotted.
- Eyring Wetlands proposed parking area will need to be staked with the assistance of Don Eyring. Mr. Berkey has estimated the cost of lot construction to be around \$35,000.
- The Upper Trail Grant proposal submitted to the Conneaut Foundation for Blakeslee Road did not get approved for the 2017 round.
- Car and truck bids went out to the local car dealers last month. State bid procedures were reviewed.
- The ad for the Operations Manager position produced several applicants.

New Business:

1. Mr. Berkey noted the parking area at the Rt 307 Trailhead is in need of repair. Three other businesses share the parking area, the Board will need to speak with the other businesses in regard to sharing costs.
2. There will be a walk with Nate Paskey at the Lampson Reservoir March 30th to mark trails for the Berardinelli Restoration project.
3. Mr. Best and Mr. Frimerman met with a security camera firm. They discussed needs, prices, and walked some of the park sites with the technology crew. Quotes will be forthcoming.
4. Mr. Frimerman met with Summit and Portage county parks regarding Park Rangers. He will be looking into developing a Ranger program and looking for Rangers from our region interested in moonlighting. Mr. Berkey will contact a retired Ranger. Mr. Frimerman suggested to use the security firm of St. Moritz until a Ranger Program is established.
5. Can we install electric or solar energy at Lampson staging area for lighting?

Old Business:

1. Mr. Carpenter noted that he and Mr. Berkey will be reopening the Rock Creek Bypass project.
2. Mr. Berkey was advised by the highway department that the Greenway signs will be going up after the weather breaks; probably sometime in April.
3. Mr. Best moved for MP to purchase a new maintenance truck in accordance with the State Bid prices; being the lowest and best prices. So moved to order a GMC $\frac{3}{4}$ ton extended cab 4wd using the price of \$29,619.50 as a base. Mr. Berkey seconded the motion. Best, aye; Berkey; aye; Lane, aye; Kohli, aye; Carpenter, abstain. Motion carried by majority quorum. Mr. Frimerman will place the order.
4. The Conneaut river property on Mill Road has filed and transferred to the Port Authority. Locks will need to be changed, utilities transferred and insurance obtained.
5. TAP funding may be enhanced by CDC if a cash flow exists.
6. Redbrook project has been approved by Clean Ohio.
7. A purchase agreement needs to be submitted for the upper Camp Peet property.
8. Mr. Frimerman will be meeting with OEPA and the insurance representative at the Upper Grand River Metropark this coming week to discuss the buildings. Capp Steel will be repainting the gates.
9. There were several applications received for the Operations Manager position.
10. Slide repair WRG: Mr. Berkey met with Tim Martin and both will meet with Tom Gage to reassess the needs regarding the repair along the Greenway.
11. Mr. Frimerman stated the Metroparks is competing with Geneva on the Lake and the City of Geneva for TAP Grant monies. There is approximately 11 million State dollars available for the 59 million dollars of requests. The Metroparks will be applying for construction costs to complete the North Shore Trail.
12. Discussion of the updates to the Metroparks Rules & Regulations as rewritten and presented by Marie Lane. Modifications discussed. Some hunting regulations are governed by ODNR and the Division of Watercraft. Moved to adopt the new Rules and Regulations by Berkey with changes and modifications as discussed. Second by Best. All in favor. Motion carried.
13. Ms. Lane moved to adopt Resolution 2017-009, Updating the Rules and Regulations of the Ashtabula County Metroparks. Second by Mr. Berkey. Call of the Roll: Lane, aye; Best, aye; Carpenter, aye; Berkey, aye; Kohli, aye. So passed by unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum.
14. Mr. Berkey and Mr. Kohli will meet on March 20th to discuss the Pymatuning Valley Greenway development project.

Adjourn: There being no further business; Mr. Berkey moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:16pm. Mr. Kohli seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Upcoming Events:

Advisory Council Fund Raising Committee Meeting March 21st @ 7pm
Lake Metroparks Kayak and Canoe Race, Harpersfield Park April 22nd
Friends of Conneaut Creek park cleanup May 6th

Next Board Meeting:

March 29, 2017 @ 6:30pm 91 N Chestnut St Jefferson
Minutes to be approved: April 2017

Paul Carpenter, President/Chair (or representative)

Pam Blough, Clerk