

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday September 14th, 2016

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 6:32pm by Paul Carpenter. Board Members in attendance and completing a quorum were: Paul Carpenter, President; Bob Best, Vice President; Terry Berkey, Member; Marie Lane, Member; and Charlie Kohli, Member. Larry Frimerman, Executive Director and Pam Blough, Clerk were also in attendance.

The August Regular and Special Minutes and Current Monthly Expense Worksheet were reviewed. August financials were reviewed. Motion to approve Minutes by Kohli, Second by Berkey. Motion to approve bills/expenses by Kohli, seconded by Lane. Motion to accept financials, Kohli; second by Best. All motions were passed by unanimous vote of aye. Also in attendance: Brett Rodstrom, WRLC; Scott Burgett, Michael Sords; Friends of MP, and members of the public.

Presentation: Mr. Kohli presented Michael Sords a plaque of appreciation for his his extensive Volunteer work for the Metroparks and years of service as a Metroparks Board Member.

Audience Participation is limited to three minutes each and the Board thanks them for their input. None.

Mr. Frimerman expressed his desire to re-energize and open communications with the Advisory Council and their Committees. He will organize and set a date for the meetings to resume; he will attend on behalf of the Board.

Old Business:

1. Mr. Berkey stated that all materials have been ordered for the NatueWorks Grant and should be installed at Harpersfield by mid-October.
2. Mr. Best has an upcoming meeting with Matthew Smith to discuss the progress of the Streambank Restoration Grant.
3. Mr. Berkey would like the Board to raise the original budget amount for Over the Hill Gang Volunteer Maintenance shirts from \$300.00 to \$500.00. Mr. Kohli motioned that the Board increase the t-shirt purchase amount; not to exceed \$500.00. Mr. Berkey seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.
4. Mr. Berkey motioned for the Metroparks to purchase the used wood chipper from Saybrook Township in the amount of \$5,250.00. Second by Mr. Kohli. All were in favor. Motion passed.
5. Mr. Berkey presented a signage program to the Board for approval. Mr. Kohli motioned for the Board to approve the Parks sign purchase and installation costs as

- presented. Not to exceed \$30,000.00 in signage from both Belding Monuments and Osburn Associates; installation costs to the County Engineer not to exceed \$5,000.00. Move appropriations as necessary. Ms. Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Mr. Berkey moved to contract the work for the relocation of the fence near the Austinburg Trailhead on the WRGT; not to exceed \$1,650. Second by Ms. Lane. All were in favor. Motion passed.
 7. Mr. Kohli reported on the Lamprey Barrier Project at Harpersfield: The new Army Corps of Engineers project manager is reviewing all paperwork and holding committee meetings; there could be a delay regarding the acquisition issue. Mr. Kohli will advise further after more meetings are held.
 8. Discussion of hunting regulations and park policy. A land management policy needs to be adopted. The State can supply signage and help with regulation. There are several options; Advisory Group would have some input. For now: Hunting allowed at Hatches Corners and Blakeslee (Friends of Conneaut Creek), fowl hunting at Lampson Reservoir. Mr. Best moved to allow bow hunting at Lampson Reservoir this season, first come first served, up to 20 persons. Second by Mr. Kohli. All in favor. Motion passed.
 9. Ms. Lane discussed the option of hiring a host for Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark. Legal could draw up a lease; background check would be performed. The Board agreed to look to next year and arrange something if the volunteer is still interested. Mr. Frimerman will check with other area Park Districts to see how they would handle the same.

New Business:

1. Mr. Kohli moved to pass a Resolution authorizing bids to be advertised for the Blakeslee Road Parking Lot, PID 102369. Second by Mr. Berkey. Call of the roll: Carpenter, aye; Berkey, aye; Best, abstain; Lane, aye; Kohli, aye. Resolution 2016-005 Blakeslee Rd parking lot passed by majority of members and constituting a quorum.
2. Mr. Berkey moved to pass a Resolution to accept the purchase agreement and purchase the house and land on Cork Cold Springs Road from Western Reserve Land Conservancy for the amount of \$40,000. Property is adjacent to the Austinburg Lowlands Grant property. Second by Mr. Kohli. Call of the roll: Carpenter, aye; Berkey, aye; Best, aye; Lane, aye; Kohli, aye. Resolution 2016-006 Lutheran House Purchase passed by unanimous vote of members and quorum present.
3. Mr. Best attended the latest meeting of the Camp Peet Volunteers. They are looking to build a pavilion and an outhouse. Mr. Best made a proposal after reviewing a drawing engineered by Mr. Berkey that a pavilion could be built with funding from the Clara D. Peet Trust Fund.

4. Mr. Berkey moved to appropriate \$25,000.00 for a new pavilion at Camp Peet: \$19,500.00 from the Camp Peet Trust Fund for construction and materials, and \$5,500.00 from the General Fund for concrete. Second by Mr. Kohli. Motion passed by all members. Mr. Berkey will get three bids/estimates for the job. ADA and EPA standards.
5. Mr. Carpenter moved to go into Executive Session at 7:43pm; inviting Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Discussion of potential land acquisition opportunities. Call of the Roll: Lane, Aye; Carpenter, Aye; Best, Aye; Berkey, Aye; Kohli, Aye. So moved by unanimous vote.
Back into regular session at 9:33pm.
6. Ms. Lane moved to resolve, that the Metroparks Board moves to accept a donation of land from Heritage Acres Realty of approximately 602 acres, and does agree to pay the Western Reserve Land Conservancy in the amount of \$300,000.00, payable over a three year period beginning in 2016. First payment in the amount of \$150,000.00, second and third payments of \$75,000.00 due in 2017 and 2018. Second by Mr. Berkey. Call of the Roll: Lane, Aye; Carpenter, Aye; Best, Aye; Berkey, Aye; Best, Aye. So moved by unanimous vote.
Resolution 2016-008, passed by unanimous vote of members who did constitute a quorum.

Upcoming Events:

Adjourn: There being no further business; Mr. Best moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:40pm. Mr. Kohli seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: October 12th, 2016 @ 6:30pm 91 N Chestnut St Jefferson

Next Work sessions: September 28, 2016 October 26th, 2016 @ 6:30pm

Minutes to be approved: October 2016

Paul Carpenter, President/Chair (or representative)

Pam Blough, Clerk