

ASHTABULA COUNTY METROPARKS

25 West Jefferson Street, Jefferson, OH 44047

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday February 9th, 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. Board Members in attendance and completing a quorum were: Charlie Kohli, Member; Terry Berkey, Member, and Marie Lane, Member. Pam Blough, Clerk. Paul Carpenter, President and Bob Best, Vice President could not be in attendance due to work and vacation time. The January Regular and Special Minutes and Current Monthly Expense Worksheet were reviewed. December financials and Year-End were reviewed. Motion to approve Minutes by Berkey, second by Lane. Motion to approve bills/expenses by Berkey, including the Smolen and Insurance Bills (pending adjustments to Insurance); seconded by Lane. Both motions were passed by majority vote of aye. Resolution 2016-003 so moved for approval of 2015 year-end financial by Berkey, second by Lane. Call of Role: Kohli, Aye, Berkey, aye; Lane, aye; Resolution so passed. Also in attendance: Advisory Council Members and Friends of the Metroparks.

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

Sue Ferritto from the Advisory Council reminded the Board to review the Strategic Plan Draft that will be presented at the next Work Session.

Mr. Kohli thanked past Board Member Mike Sords for all of his work and dedication to the Metroparks over the last decade.

Amanda White, Zoning and Community Development Administrator for the City of Geneva gave an update of the 534 Corridor Committee; she discussed upcoming plans for the 534 Corridor and invited all to a Public Meeting being held at Spire Institute March 10, 2016 from 1-3pm and 5-7pm. They plan to develop the Corridor utilizing TAP and Clean Ohio Funding. She thanks Charlie Kohli for his input and expertise. The path project is expected to have a terminus at Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark.

Old Business:

1. Discussion of Insurance Coverage: agreed to raise the Misc. Equipment by \$20,000; the Bait Shop to \$100,000; Camp Peet assets by \$20,000 and both liability policies to \$5,000,000. Bill will be paid as is, pending adjustments. The Board expects additional billing as a result of the increase in coverage. Lane moved, Berkey seconded; motion passed by unanimous agreement.
2. Mr. Kohli has advised that the State has approved funding for acquisition of land under the North Shore Trail Grant. Goodwill Purchase: motion to purchase Goodwill property for the North Shore Trail Project using COTF and CDC Funds in the amount of \$59,800. Smolen will write the purchase agreement. Motion by Mr. Berkey to purchase with COTF and CDC funds and to authorize Smolen to write the purchase agreement. Berkey motioned, Lane second. Aye aye aye. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. Mr. Kohli updated the Board on the NST Grant: The City of Ashtabula approved the easements on their land pending a professional appraisal. Smolen is ordering the appraisal. Mr. Kister is requesting a letter of intent from the Metroparks stating the NST right of way will not be placed near his property. Mr. Kohli will submit the letter to Mr. Kister. Ms. Lane approves the submission of the letter as written and motions to approve. Mr. Berkey seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passed. Other parties are in process of approving easements.
4. Mr. Kohli and Mr. Best were in on the Tuesday conference call to the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Lamprey Barrier Project at Harpersfield. The ACE suggests the Board submit a letter that would allow the ACE to act on behalf of the Metroparks in acquiring the land and easements for the Project. This would be a letter of representation only and not a financial binding. The Board has until April 4th to approve the PPA. The next conference call is scheduled for March 8th. Moved by Ms. Lane to allow Mr. Kohli to send the letter of intent. Second by Mr. Berkey. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Mr. Berkey to sign the updated agreement with Aris Rentals for the portable restroom at the Rt 307 Trailhead. The agreement acknowledges the price hike to \$79 per month and states the terms and conditions. The Board will consider this and other options when supplying other parks and areas of the Trail with restrooms this summer. Second by Ms. Lane. All were in favor. Motion carried.
6. Mr. Berkey noted that he has made contact with the landowner adjacent to the Greenway in Rock Creek regarding obtaining an easement for the Rock Creek Bypass. He and the landowner will have further discussions.
7. Camp Peet update: Chicago Title is in process of obtaining survey description approval from the County Auditor in order to transfer the deed.
8. The new website is currently in setup mode with Internet Marketing Solutions.

New Business:

1. Ms. Lane motioned to approve the Metroparks application to Western Reserve Coop for a Petro vend card to be used for Greenway Trail fuel purchases. Mr. Berkey and Mr. Cufu will be approved to use the card. Mr. Berkey seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.
2. Monies were received in honor of Kenneth Platt to be used for the Greenway Trail. Motion to set up an Expenditure Line item for the Kenneth Platt Memorial Greenway in the amount received made by Ms. Lane, seconded by Mr. Berkey. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. The Friends of Harpersfield Metroparks held a pasta dinner last weekend to raise funds for the Park, reported by Mr. Kohli.
4. Motion by Mr. Berkey to move meetings and work sessions to the second and fourth WEDNESDAY of each month respectively, effective immediately. Second by Ms. Lane. Kohli, Berkey, Lane, all aye. Motion to change regular meetings and work sessions from Tuesdays to Wednesdays so passed by unanimous vote of Members present. The next work session will be moved from Tuesday February 23rd to Wednesday February 24th 2016. Advisory Council will be advised.

Upcoming Events:

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- Work session: February 24, 6:30pm at the Port Authority meeting room.

Adjourn: There being no further business; Mr. Berkey moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:55pm. Ms. Lane seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: March 9th, 2016

Next Work Sessions: Feb 24th March 23rd, 2016

Minutes to be approved: March 2016

Paul Carpenter, President/Chair (or representative)

Pam Blough, Clerk