

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday August 9th, 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 6:30 pm by Paul Carpenter; President. Board Members attending and completing a quorum were: Paul Carpenter, President; Bob Best, Vice President; Marie Lane, Member. Larry Frimerman, Executive Director; Brett Bellas, Operations Manager; and Pam Blough, Office Manager; were also in attendance. Terry Berkey and Charlie Kohli, Members; were out of town on vacation. Guest: JP Ducro, County Commissioner.

Business at Hand:

1. Agenda was reviewed; move to approve by Best, second by Lane. All in favor.
2. The July 19 Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Best, second by Carpenter; Lane, abstained. Motion passed by majority.
3. The July 31st Special Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Lane, second by Best. All approved. Motion passed.
4. The July Financials were reviewed. Motion by Lane to approve. Second by Best. All approved.
5. Expense worksheet for August reviewed. Motion to accept by Best, Second by Lane. All in favor.

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

JP Ducro commented on the Conneaut Master Plan Meeting: Mr. Best and Mr. Bellas had attended last week's meeting and gave input regarding hunting allowances on public land. Redbrook Preserve update was presented to Mr. Ducro. The three grants are still in process; positive outlook, but nothing has been confirmed.

Director's Report:

- Budget estimate for 2018 was submitted to the Auditor's office on July 20th.
- Security. There was a death at Harpersfield, Sheriff reported due to natural causes.
- Camp Peet: Waiting for survey to be approved and returned from the State before moving forward with pavilion and vault toilet.
- Friends of CC MP: Developing plans with Operations Manager for a trail and parking lot consistent with ADA accessibility.
- Red Brook: Grants looking good. No additional news.
- Upper Grand River: Hazmat testing was completed on five additional remaining buildings for potential demolition. Mr. Cid has cleaned out his belongings and will hand in the keys after he retrieves a load of firewood.
- Hatches Corners: Improvements and identifying amenities to target for CDC grant monies are in process.
- Lampson Reservoir: Waiting on designs for crossings/bridges. The wetlands have been improved on the eastern half of the property. Boardwalk opportunities may be planned.
- Harpersfield: Dam project continuing. Operations will be working on trash issues. Adjacent landowner has been contacted regarding sale of their property to the Metroparks.
- Eyring: Contractor should begin the driveway and parking area this month.
- Greenway: Sealing complete on the northern half of the trail.
- Pymatuning Valley Greenway: Estimates are now in place to pursue the next phase after NST.
- North Shore Trail: TAP grant was approved. RFP and project meeting to be planned.
- Indian Mound Park: Redraft of agreement still in process.
- WRRSP Grant and Prospective Conneaut Creek Emerald Necklace property nominations submitted.

Old Business:

1. First meeting with the Harpersfield landowners to present purchase interest was held. It may be considered for a future Clean Ohio Grant project.
2. Mr. Best attended the Wild & Scenic River meeting this week.
3. People for Parks is having a meeting at Harpersfield Park this Thursday.
4. Board reviewed prior approval and is still in favor of the \$2000 signage budget for Eyring Wetland Preserve.

New Business:

1. Board Opinion after reviewing the proposed City of Conneaut Ordinance No. 66-17 revision: easiest way for Conneaut to handle the ordinance revision is to mirror ODNR Rules and have the City adopt; instead of having two sets of rules to follow. Board will markup any suggestions and give them to Mr. Frimerman to forward to Attorney Kyle Smith.
2. New bridge design was reviewed for the Lampson Reservoir Metropark walking trail. Ms. Lane moved to approve purchase and expenditure for the new bridge as well as the labor to have it installed. Second by Mr. Best. All in favor. CDC may reimburse the Metroparks with approval.
3. Chagrin River Partners was awarded a grant that enables them to offer their assistance to entities that need help with grant writing. Examples would be Clean Ohio, WRRSP and Wetland Mitigation bank setup. They will be able to assist the Ashtabula Metroparks, according to Mr. Frimerman.

Adjourn: There being no further business; Ms. Lane moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:26pm. Mr. Best seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Board Meetings: August 23rd, 2017 6:30pm @ 91 N Chestnut St Jefferson
September 13th, 2017

Minutes to be approved: September 2017

Paul Carpenter, President (or representative)

Pam Blough, Clerk