

Minutes of the 719th meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District held on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Inniswood Metro Garden.

Present

Commissioners: Ms. Tripp, Mr. Danter, Mr. Jeffrey

Staff: Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Ruff, Ms. Burchfield, Ms. Gebbie, Ms. Hanley, Ms. Steelman, Mr. Knowles, Mr. Rockenbaugh, Ms. Bain, Mr. Orahood, Ms. Eby

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: Mr. Narciso, Ms. Litt, Mr. Jourdan

Mr. Danter asked if all of the notice requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules of this Board regarding open meetings have been complied with for this meeting. The Executive Director responded that yes, all of those requirements and rules have been met.

Minutes of the November 13, 2007 Meeting of the Board

Ms. Tripp made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2007 meeting. Mr. Jeffrey seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

Minutes of the November 27, 2007 Meeting of the Board

Mr. Jeffrey made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2007 meeting. Ms. Tripp seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

Disbursement Resolution

The Board asked for clarification of a few items. Mr. Jeffrey moved for approval of the Disbursement Resolution authorizing payment of the November 2007 invoices. Ms. Tripp seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 4788 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

Staff Reports

Administration:

Mr. O'Meara stated that it is a quiet time of year in the parks. Deer culling is being done at night by park staff and through public hunting areas during the day at Clear Creek Metro Park, Slate Run Metro Park and Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park. Over 12,000 lbs of deer meat have been donated to the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.

Mr. O'Meara mentioned that Metro Parks took possession of 68 acres, formerly known as the Sheets property along Big Darby Creek at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park and 170 acres, formerly known as the Rawn property at Pickerington Ponds Metro Park. The addition to Pickerington Ponds increases the park acreage by over 10% and gains valuable frontage along Gender Road for future access and facilities.

Mr. O'Meara stated that the 2008 Metro Park Budget was approved in November.

Design and Visitor Services:

Mr. Peck did not attend the meeting due to recent surgery. His report was included with the board materials.

Human Resources:

Ms. Burchfield stated that breakfast with Santa was held last Saturday at Inniswood with almost 150 people in attendance. Pictures taken with Santa included snow in the background and everyone seemed to have a good time. Ms. Burchfield then introduced John Scheeler and his family and the staff of Inniswood.

Ms. Burchfield mentioned that Metro Parks has completed several training programs for the year, including a cultural program on the Somali population.

Finance:

Mr. Ruff mentioned that Metro Parks' received a unanticipated \$1,000,000 from property tax in Franklin County. The County had indicated that we wouldn't be receiving this allocation in 2007.

Mr. Ruff stated that the Blacklick Woods Golf Course finances are slowing down this time of year as expected. Based on projections, the golf course finances will end with a deficit. The golfing business started the year rather slowly and made significant progress during the summer and finished with a wet November. December revenues will depend on merchandise purchased during the holiday shopping.

Mr. Ruff also mentioned that Metro Parks will be implementing a document management system at the beginning of the year.

Resolutions

#4789 HONORING JOHN O. SCHEELER

The Board recognized the work and contributions of retired employee, John O. Scheeler, and honored and paid tribute to his distinguished service to the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks and to the citizens of central Ohio.

#4790 HONORING HERBERT A. WILLIAMS

The Board recognized the work and contributions of retired employee, Herbert A. Williams, and honored and paid tribute to his distinguished service to the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks and to the citizens of central Ohio.

#4791 RELATIVE TO APPOINTMENT OF PARK RANGER DANIEL C. KADERLY

The Board approved designating Daniel C. Kaderly as park ranger, and directed that the necessary oaths and bonds be executed.

#4792 RELATIVE TO APPOINTMENT OF PARK RANGER TERRY A. SUDMAN

The Board approved designating Terry A. Sudman as park ranger, and directed that the necessary oaths and bonds be executed.

- #4793 AUTHORIZING SIGNING THE CENTRAL OHIO GREEN PACT
The Board authorized the Executive Director to sign the Central Ohio Green Pact and thereby demonstrate Metro Parks commitment to using environmentally sound practices, supporting intergovernmental cooperation, improving land management, and conserving open space.
- #4794 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ACCEPTING FUNDS FOR THE OHIO TO ERIE TRAIL
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a Pass Through Agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the Ohio to Erie Trail project in the amount of \$2,000,000 from the State of Ohio.
- #4795 AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAIL CROSSING PETZINGER ROAD AS PART OF THE ALUM CREEK GREENWAY
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with the lowest and best bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$198,000.
- #4796 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR BUILDING DEMOLITION ON THE WHITTIER PENINSULA FOR SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with the lowest and best bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$429,000.
- #4797 AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION OF REAL ESTATE FROM JAMES W. MCGUIRE, TRUSTEE, LOCATED AT BATTELLE DARBY CREEK METRO PARK
The Board authorized the Executive Director to accept a donation of land from James W. McGuire in Franklin County.
- #4798 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY MILICA B. LISTER, TRUSTEE, AND CVETA NASTEV, TRUSTEE, FOR THE BLACKLICK CREEK GREENWAY
The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase property from Milica B. Lister, Trustee, and Cveta Nastev, Trustee, for \$40,370.
- #4799 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY CHAPIN AND CHAPIN PROPERTIES, LLC FOR THE BLACKLICK CREEK GREENWAY
The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase property from Chapin and Chapin Properties, LLC for \$42,186.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business

Chester Jourdan, Executive Director of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission gave a presentation on “Planning for the Future”. He talked about expected growth in Central Ohio in the upcoming decades and encouraged Metro Parks to consider the anticipated growth as it makes its plans for its upcoming levy. He also thanked Metro Parks for their continuing support of the Greenways Program.

Executive Session

Ms. Tripp moved to enter into executive session at 5:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisition. Mr. Jeffrey seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Danter	Yes
Ms. Tripp	Yes
Mr. Jeffrey	Yes

The Board returned from executive session at 5:40 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. O'Meara, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:

Ken Danter, Chair