

Minutes of the 761<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District held on January 11, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Cedar Ridge Lodge, Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park.

**Present**

Commissioners: Ms. Beasley, Mr. McNealey, Mr. Lashutka

Staff: Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Peck, Ms. Telfer, Mr. Ruff, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Turpenning, Mr. Kasnyik, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sargeant, Mr. Reiner

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: Mr. Walsh

Mr. O'Meara, acting as chair, stated that all of the requirements and rules of the notice requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules of this Board regarding open meetings have been met for this meeting.

**Election of Officers**

Mr. O'Meara, acting as chair, asked for nominations for Chair for 2011. Ms. Beasley nominated Mr. Lashutka. The nomination was seconded by Mr. McNealey. Mr. Lashutka was elected to serve as Chair for 2011, effective immediately.

**Minutes of the December 14, 2010 Meeting of the Board**

Mr. McNealey made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting. Ms. Beasley seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

**Disbursement Resolution**

Mr. McNealey moved for approval of the Disbursement Resolution authorizing payment of the December 2010 invoices. Ms. Beasley seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 5168 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

**Staff Reports**

***Administration:***

Mr. O'Meara stated that staff has had an active month with various winter activities in many parks. He also mentioned that the first winter hike was well attended.

***Design and Visitor Services:***

Mr. Peck introduced staff in attendance. He also commended the Battelle Darby Creek staff for their efforts in maintaining a large, geographically diverse park.

Mr. Peck mentioned that the design of the proposed nature center at Battelle Darby Creek is going well with additional consultant fees being requested as the square footage has been expanded. He also stated that a memorandum of understanding with the Columbus Zoo and the Wilds is being circulated that would allow bison to be reintroduced in the park this year.

Mr. Peck mentioned that the cold weather and snow has tested our park staff in regards to the winter activities.

***Finance:***

Mr. Ruff stated January was one of the largest months in Metro Parks' history in terms of financial activity. With the purchases of several large properties, progress on capital improvement projects and a flurry of operational activity, Metro Parks had expenditures totaling over \$11,500,000. We remain within budget and will start the New Year in a strong financial position.

Metro Parks was within five percent of expending its total operational budget, spent 64% of its capital budget and 88% of its land acquisition budget for 2010.

***Human Resources:***

Ms. Telfer mentioned that the start of the New Year would be focused on employee training with some new programs scheduled. She also mentioned that we received over 200 online employment applications for six ranger position vacancies.

**Other Business**

Mr. O'Meara asked the Board to approve a correction to numbering four resolutions from the December Board Meeting due to a scrivener's error that resulted in the resolutions being given a number that was previously assigned. The resolution numbers are corrected as follows: 5148 to 5164, 5149 to 5165, 5150 to 5166, and 5151 to 5167. The Board granted approval.

Mr. Peck asked the Board to approve a correction to Resolution #5152. The correct age of the Senior Rate is 55 and older. The Board granted approval.

**Resolutions**

#5169 AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY (US) LLP AS METRO PARKS' ATTORNEYS

The Board designated Christopher Franzmann and the firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey as Metro Park's attorney; and authorized Mr. Franzmann and Squire, Sanders & Dempsey to manage the legal affairs of Metro Parks at the rate of \$265.00 per hour.

#5170 REQUESTING TAX ADVANCES

The Board authorized the Executive Director to request the County Auditor and County Treasurer to make tax advances in 2011 to the Park District as authorized by Section 321.34 of the Ohio Revised Code

#5171 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM VENDORS IN AN AMOUNT EXCEEDING \$25,000 FOR 2010

The Board authorized increased expenditure of funds necessary to purchase goods and services from the listed vendors up to the amount listed for each vendor.

#5172 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF OVER \$25,000 IN GOODS AND SERVICES FROM SPECIFIC VENDORS DURING 2011

The Board authorized the expenditure of funds necessary to purchase goods and services from the listed vendors up to the amount listed for each vendor.

- #5173 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PROMOTIONAL SERVICES FROM THE DISPATCH GROUP  
The Board authorized an appropriation of \$369,600 to purchase promotional services from The Dispatch Marketing Group.
- #5174 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM MARKETING SERVICES BY VECTRA FOR PRINTING AND MAILING OF THE *PARKSCOPE* MAGAZINE  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a contract for the purchase of goods and services in the amount of \$162,000 from Vectra Printing.
- #5175 AUTHORIZING METRO PARKS TO COMPLY WITH PUBLIC LAND USE RESTRICTIONS AS SPECIFIED IN THE CLEAN OHIO REVITALIZATION FUND FOR SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK  
The Board authorized restrictions on the use of the Whittier Peninsula Southern Tier at Scioto Audubon Metro Park as public recreational use for a minimum of ten years as a condition of receiving a Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund grant.
- #5176 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE FORMERLY OWNED BY ESTHER CUTHBERT TRUST THROUGH THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF AT WALNUT WOODS METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase property from the Franklin County Sheriff at an estimated total cost of \$68,000.

**Public Comment**

None.

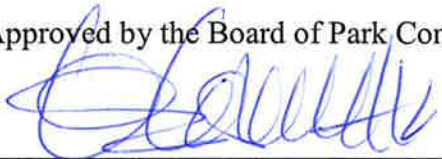
The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John R. O'Meara, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:



Greg Lashutka, Chair