

Minutes of the 717<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District held on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Cedar Ridge Lodge, Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park.

### **Present**

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

Staff: Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Peck, Mr. Ruff, Ms. Burchfield, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Hanley, Mr. Kasnyik, Mr. Dean

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: Mr. Narciso, Ms. Litt

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 October 9, 2007 Meeting of the Board**

Ms. Tripp made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2007 meeting. Mr. Jeffrey seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

### **Disbursement Resolution**

The Board asked for clarification of a few items. Ms. Tripp moved for approval of the Disbursement Resolution authorizing payment of the October 2007 invoices. Mr. Jeffrey seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 4772 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

### **Staff Reports**

#### ***Administration:***

Mr. O'Meara stated that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program grant was approved for the Hellbranch Run watershed area, in the amount of \$1,600,000. An additional \$400,000 may become available next year.

Mr. O'Meara mentioned that staff is working on a proposal with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for funding from the Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program on a restoration project along Hellbranch Run. This property is just north of Interstate 71 at the confluence of Hellbranch Run and Big Darby Creek and will be acquired by Metro Parks in November. A board resolution for engineering of the restoration project will be presented to the board at the next meeting.

Mr. O'Meara stated that the proposed new park development agreement with the Village of New Albany, Plain Township, City of Columbus and Metro Parks is close to being completed. The parties are hoping to conduct a signing ceremony in December.

Mr. O'Meara mentioned that the Clean Ohio, Natural Resource Assistance Council of Franklin County has approved a grant to Metro Parks for \$1,194,000. The grant will be used to acquire the Walker-Amity property at Prairie Oaks Metro Park in January 2008.

Mr. O'Meara stated that several leases are being finalized with the Galbreath family for continued farming and rental use of park property purchased as part of the Darby Dan acquisition. Mr. O'Meara mentioned that the Rawn property acquisition at Pickerington Ponds Metro Park will include additional acreages and therefore additional costs above the estimate that was approved in a

May 2007 board resolution.

***Design and Visitor Services:***

Mr. Peck introduced Park Manager Kevin Kasnyik, who then introduced the part-time ranger Kevin Dean.

Mr. Peck mentioned that several requested items for additional information from the October Board Meeting are included in the board packets.

Mr. Peck stated that the recent good weather has allowed the Whittier Street relocation project to be completed at Scioto Audubon Metro Park. He also mentioned that the Deer Management program has begun throughout the Metro Parks.

***Human Resources:***

Ms. Burchfield stated 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' finances are stable. There has been a slight impact on tax revenues with the slowing economy.

Mr. Ruff stated that the Golf Course has had another productive month with the excellent weather. He also mentioned that a document management system is being purchased to assist in the control and storage of documents.

**Resolutions**

- #4773 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS FOR SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF THE GRANGE INSURANCE AUDUBON CENTER AT SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into an agreement in support of the Grange Insurance Audubon Center with the City of Columbus.
- #4774 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR REMOVAL OF ASBESTOS IN THE LAZARUS WAREHOUSE AT SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract for removal of Asbestos with Midwest Asbestos Abatement for \$189,800.
- #4775 AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract for consulting services with Kinzelman Kline Gossman for \$95,200.
- #4776 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, VILLAGE OF NEW ALBANY AND PLAIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES TO ESTABLISH A METRO PARK IN PLAIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract to establish a new Metro Park in Plain Township, Franklin County.
- #4777 AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH DANIEL STOWERS

The Board authorized the Executive Director to increase payments for consulting services with Daniel Stowers by an additional amount up to \$20,000.

#4778 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO CONTRACT FOR ROADWAY REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT PRAIRIE OAKS, THREE CREEKS, Highbanks, SLATE RUN AND BLACKLICK WOODS METRO PARKS

The Board authorized the Executive Director to expend \$455,775 for roadway improvements through previously bid ODOT contracts.

#4779 AUTHORIZING INCREASE IN CERTAIN GOLF COURSE FEES FOR 2008 AT BLACKLICK WOODS GOLF COURSES

The Board authorized the Executive Director to increase certain golf course fees for 2008.

#4780 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FROM SOVEREIGN COMMUNITIES INC. AND POSSUMBILITIES LLC ALONG LITTLE DARBY CREEK IN MADISON COUNTY

The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase conservation easements along Little Darby Creek for a total price of \$250,000.

#4781 AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION OF REAL ESTATE FROM RIVER RUN OF POWELL LLC LOCATED AT Highbanks METRO PARK

The Board authorized the Executive Director to accept a donation of land from River Run of Powell LLC.

#4782 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY LEO LAMB LOCATED ALONG BLACKLICK CREEK IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase property from Leo Lamb along Blacklick Creek for \$6,000.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Other Business**

None.

**Executive Session**

None.

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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John R. O'Meara, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:

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Ken Danter, Chair