

Minutes of the 721st meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Activities Building, Blacklick Woods Golf Course.

Present

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

Staff: Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Peck, Mr. Ruff, Ms. Gebbie, Mr. Doran, Mr. Williamson

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: Ms. Litt

Mr. Jeffrey 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 January 8, 2008 Meeting of the Board

Ms. Tripp made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2008 meeting. Mr. Danter seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

Disbursement Resolution

The Board asked for clarification of a few items. Mr. Danter moved for approval of the Disbursement Resolution authorizing payment of the January 2008 invoices. Ms. Tripp seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 4812 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

Staff Reports

Administration:

Mr. O'Meara introduced Ann Litt, a volunteer for three different parks. He also introduced Blacklick Woods Golf Course Manager, Chuck Doran and Assistant Superintendent, Jay Williamson.

Mr. O'Meara stated that the Darby Creek Wetland Mitigation Bank project is moving forward through the Mitigation Bank Review Team process. Construction is planned for later this year.

Mr. O'Meara mentioned that the Columbus Regional Airport Authority has approached Metro Parks regarding a possible partnership in developing a stream and wetland mitigation project near Three Creeks.

Mr. O'Meara stated that the radio tower that was under consideration for property that is to be donated to Metro Parks in the proposed park in Plain Township will be constructed on a new location. The probable location is within the park zone on property owned by Plain Township.

Mr. O'Meara mentioned that Governor Strickland announced plans for continued funding of the Clean Ohio program in the current draft of the State's capital improvement budget. He also included reauthorization of the program in his proposed revitalization plan for Ohio.

Mr. O'Meara stated that the remainder of the Lazarus Warehouse at Scioto Audubon Metro Park has been demolished. Last week the City of Columbus' Brewery District Commission

met and tabled action on the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and related Metro Park construction plans. There are several issues to work out with the City of Columbus and the Brewery District Commission.

Design and Visitor Services:

Mr. Peck mentioned that the 2008 Winter Hike Series is going very well with as many as 1400 people attending some of the hikes.

Mr. Peck stated that the clean-up for the fuel oil leak at Slate Run is progressing with some impacted soil still present around and under the rented house. Mike Huels, the Historic Farmer who had occupied the house, has decided to relocate. The total estimated clean-up cost is around \$150,000. Installation of a new residence is no longer needed.

Human Resources:

Ms. Burchfield did not attend the meeting due to vacation. Her report was included with the board materials.

Finance:

Mr. Ruff mentioned that the month of January had large expenditures in land acquisition while tax revenues are not expected until February. We are preparations for the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (“GAAP”) conversion and our audit have begun.

Mr. Ruff stated that staff has started utilizing the new document management system to reduce the amount of paper and staff time needed in handling paper.

Resolutions

- #4813 RELATIVE TO APPOINTMENT OF PARK OFFICER
The Board designated Andrew T. Miller as a Park Officer and authorized the necessary oaths and bonds be executed to authorize him to enforce the bylaws, rules and regulations of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District and the laws of the State of Ohio.
- #4814 AUTHORIZING POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR METRO PARKS’ RESOURCE MANAGER
The Board authorized the Executive Director to grant the Power of Attorney to Resource Manager, John Watts to act on Metro Parks’ behalf with respect to Farm Services Agency documents.
- #4815 AUTHORIZING TO THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM SPECIAL PARK DISTRICT FORUM – FUND 28 TO GENERAL FUND – FUND 27
The Board authorized the transfer of funds in the amount of \$59,959.10.
- #4816 AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF AUDIT FEES TO THE TREASURER OF THE STATE OF OHIO FOR THE SERVICES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES SECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR OF STATE
The Board authorized the expenditure of funds to the Treasurer of the State of Ohio necessary to pay for the GAAP conversion in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.
- #4817 ADOPTING THE PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY FOR METRO PARKS

The Board adopted the Public Records Policy.

#4818 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A MANUFACTURED HOME AT SLATE RUN HISTORICAL FARM

The Board did not approve this resolution.

#4819 AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE CLEANUP OF A FUEL OIL SPILL AT SLATE RUN METRO PARK

The Board authorized the Executive Director to declare this cleanup an emergency, waive formal bidding requirements and enter into a contract with Brian Hunter in the amount of \$26,800.

Motion of the Board: The Board made a motion to hereby declare the single-family residence at 9094 Marcy Road, Ashville, in Pickaway County to be surplus and authorized the structure, which is located adjacent to Slate Run Farm, to be demolished in conjunction with the fuel oil spill cleanup.

Ms. Tripp made a motion authorizing demolition of the structure at 9094 Marcy Road. Mr. Danter seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

#4820 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR A WATERLINE ALONG DUVALL ROAD AND GRANTING A WATERLINE EASEMENT AT SLATE RUN METRO PARK

The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into an agreement for construction of a water line in the amount of \$43,252.27 and to grant an easement to Earnhart Hill Regional Water & Sewer District.

#4821 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AN INDUSTRIAL TRACTOR/BACKHOE FOR THE ROVING CONSTRUCTION CREW

The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase the backhoe in the amount up to \$73,000.

#4822 AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF STRUCTURES AND DEBRIS FROM PARK PROPERTY AT CLEAR CREEK METRO PARK

The Board authorized the removal of structures from park property at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

#4823 AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE BLACKLICK CREEK GREENWAY CROSSING US 33 AND BLACKLICK CREEK

The Board authorized the Executive Director to amend the contract for consulting services with ME Companies Inc. and to expend an additional \$38,994.

#4824 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR WETLAND RESTORATION AT BATTELLE DARBY CREEK METRO PARK

The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Creamer Drainage Excavating in the amount of \$228,470.

#4825 AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION OF REAL ESTATE FROM THE VILLAGE OF NEW ALBANY LOCATED IN PLAIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Board authorized the Executive Director to accept a donation of land of 107 acres from the Village of New Albany as anticipated in the Metro Park Development Agreement for the proposed new Metro Park in Plain Township.

#4826 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN OPTION AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A TRAIL EASEMENT ON REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE CAMP CHASE RAILROAD CORPORATION

The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into an Option Agreement for \$100, and to purchase a Trail Easement in the amount of \$750,000 with Camp Chase Railroad Corporation.

#4827 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY JOHN PABST IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase property from John Pabst at Three Creeks Park in the amount of \$27,000.

Public Comment

None.

Executive Session

Ms. Tripp moved to enter into executive session at 4:55 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation and land acquisition. Mr. Danter seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

The Board returned from executive session at 5:25 p.m.

Bob Gable, Scenic Rivers Coordinator for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, gave an update to the Board on the planned partnership in land acquisition along Little Darby Creek. The Board supported modifying the agreement to accommodate requirements from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. O'Meara, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:

Ellen L. Tripp, Chair Pro Tem