

Minutes of the 715<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District held on Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Highbanks Metro Park nature center.

### **Present**

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

Staff: Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Peck, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Ricart, Mr. Rapp, Mr. Schurman, Ms. Jervey, Ms. Pheifer, Mr. Jordan

Guest: 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 August 9, 2007 Meeting of the Board**

Ms. Tripp made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 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 August 2007 invoices. Mr. Jeffrey seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 4757 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

### **Staff Reports**

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

Mr. O'Meara stated that the Commit to be Fit hikes began at Scioto Audubon Metro Park with Phil Urban, CEO of Grange Insurance, and Andrea Cambern, news anchor from Channel 10TV, joining in the activities. He also shared that the relocation of Whittier Street is under construction.

Mr. O'Meara stated that land Metro Park owns that was part of Darby Dan Farms would be released to our control starting in March of 2008. No decision has been made in regards to the use of the rental houses and agricultural land, but discussions are underway.

Mr. O'Meara mentioned that Rails-to-Trails Conservancy has designated Columbus and Franklin County as a target community in their 2010 campaign to double federal funding for bicycle and pedestrian transportation.

#### ***Design and Visitor Services:***

Mr. Peck stated that the Big Bugs exhibit at Inniswood Metro Garden is continuing to be received very well by the public with a total attendance of over 370,000 visitors. He also shared that progress is being made on the Dyer Mill trail bridge at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park and that directional roadway signs have been installed around Three Creeks Park.

Mr. Peck mentioned that the Alum Creek Greenway Trail is open north of Three Creeks Park with one remaining section to be completed at Petzinger Road.

Mr. Peck stated that Metro Parks participated in the Central Ohio Terrorism Exercise with other law enforcement agencies. A mock exercise was conducted at Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

Mr. O'Meara briefly discussed the Personnel and Finance reports in the absence of Ms. Burchfield and Mr. Ruff.

### **Resolutions**

- #4758 AUTHORIZING THE DECLARATION AND DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT  
The Board declared various used equipment to be surplus and authorizes the Director to dispose of said equipment in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.
- #4759 Authorizing Professional Engineering Services for the Blacklick Creek Greenway Crossing US 33 and Blacklick Creek  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to add to the contract for engineering services with ME Companies for design changes to the project at a cost of \$34,727.
- #4760 AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR AGRICULTURAL RENTAL FEES  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to solicit competitive bids from interested farmers and to award contracts not to exceed two years.
- #4761 AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR ASPHALT TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AT Highbanks, Glacier Ridge and Sharon Woods Metro Parks  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract for asphalt improvements with B&C Blacktop Sealing for \$100,647.
- #4762 AUTHORIZING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO WETLANDS FOUNDATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A MITIGATION WETLAND AT BATTELLE DARBY CREEK METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Wetland Foundation to design and construct a mitigation wetland and to sell wetland credits.
- #4763 RELATIVE TO APPOINTMENT OF PARK OFFICER  
The Board designated Bret Michael Whitaker as a park ranger, 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.

### **Public Comment**

None.

**Executive Session**

Ms. Tripp moved to enter into executive session at 4:37 p.m. for the purpose of discussing litigation and 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 5:24 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 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