Minutes of the 878th meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held on April 9, 2019, 4:00 p.m. at The Nature Center, Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, 1415 Darby Creek Drive, Galloway, Ohio 43119

Present
Commissioners: Mr. McGregor, Mr. Hadden

Staff: Mr. Moloney, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Peck, Ms. Telfer, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Hanley, Mr. Studenmund, Darby Creek park staff

Legal Counsel: Ms. Martinez

Guests: Mr. Granados

Mr. Hadden asked if all of the notice requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules of the Board regarding open meetings had been met. Mr. Moloney confirmed that all of those requirements and rules had been met.

Minutes of the March 12, 2019 Board Meeting
Mr. McGregor made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 Board Meeting. Mr. Hadden seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

Disbursement Resolution
Mr. McGregor moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the March 2019 invoices. Mr. Hadden seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 5775 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

Staff Reports
Administration
Mr. Moloney mentioned that board member Greg Lashutak has resigned from the Board. He thanked Greg for his dedicated service to Metro Parks and the public. Greg was instrumental in the growth of the district and successful passing of the last two property tax levies. The Board also expressed their gratitude for his leadership.

Mr. Moloney stated that staff is working on several large scale planning efforts in central Ohio. As promised to the voters in November, we are looking for our next two new parks in Franklin County while working with local and regional partners.

Mr. Moloney mentioned that work continues on the Camp Chase Trail extension. This section of the Ohio to Erie trail is being developed through the Indian Ridge Area at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, following the existing Camp Chase Railroad.

Design and Visitor Services:
Mr. Peck introduced Park Manager Kevin Kasnyik, who then introduced the Battelle Darby Creek staff members. Mr. Kasnyik highlighted a few projects at the park, park programs continue to see large attendance, and the bison passed their yearly veterinary checkups.

Mr. Peck also updated the Board on a few projects. The resource management team successfully performed three prescribed burns of park prairies for approximately 110 acres. Both the new playground at Slate Run and overlook deck at Scioto Grove are nearing completion. Attendance remains high this spring with good weather for the month of March.

Finance:
Mr. McGivern stated that the liability insurance coverage contract was finalized to ensure updated and adequate insurance protections effective May, 1, 2019. Progress continues on the audit compilation. Statistics for the month include 73 checks processed, 34 purchase orders issued, and three payroll cycles completed.

Human Resources:
Ms. Telfer stated that staff has been busy with interviewing and hiring. In addition to the seasonal hiring, HR has been working with Operations to fill a variety of full-time and part-time positions. Many vacancies have an identified preferred candidate whose promotion/transfer should be finalized within the month of April. Completing these processes now will place us at nearly full strength in preparation for the busy spring/summer months to come.

Other Business.
Mr. Moloney presented an update on the operations of the Blacklick Woods Golf Courses. Historically, the courses have been very successful with rounds played and with the First Tee program for youth. Blacklick Woods has an 18-hole champion course, a 9-hole executive course and a learning center area for the First Tee program. More recently, the golf industry has seen a decline in interest and rounds played as is currently being experienced at Blacklick Woods. Staff would like to take a slightly different approach of attracting more people to the game of golf. Staff is recommending that Metro Parks eliminate the fee associated with playing the 9-hole course. The current fee structure would remain the same associated with the 18-hole course, Franklin County resident discount, cart rentals and club rentals for both courses. This approach would hopefully increase interest in the game by getting more people on the course that allows for flexibility in time spent and costs of play. After a brief discussion, the Board concurred with Mr. Moloney's direction.

Resolutions:
#5776 BYLAWS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
The Board adopted Bylaws effective April 9, 2019.

#5777 AUTHORIZING DONATION OF A HORSE FROM SLATE RUN LIVING HISTORICAL FARM
The Board authorized the donation of a horse to Friends for Life Animal Haven.

#5778 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE ROVING CONSTRUCTION CREW
The Board authorized the purchase of a compact excavator from Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co. in the amount of $67,400.

#5779 AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF METRO PARKS INSURANCE COVERAGE TO BURNHAM & FLOWER INSURANCE GROUP
The Board authorized the purchase of insurance coverage from Burnham and Flower Insurance Group in the premium amount of $147,584.

#5780 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF NEW GAS POWERED GOLF CARTS FOR THE BLACKLICK WOODS GOLF COURSES
The Board authorized the purchase of 35 gas powered golf carts from Century Equipment in the amount of $173,508 and declared 35 electric golf carts surplus.

Public Comment. None

The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Moloney, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:

JB Hadden, Chair