

Minutes of the 888<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District held on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 4:00 p.m. at Blendon Woods Metro Park, Nature Center, 4265 E. Dublin Granville Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081.

**Present**

Commissioners: Mr. McGregor, Mr. McCue, Mr. Hadden

Staff: Mr. Moloney, Mrs. Telfer, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Peck, Mr. Studenmund, Mrs. Ramey, Ms. Hanley, Mrs. Fronk, Mr. Dudley, Blendon Woods staff

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: Mrs. McGregor, Ms. Studabaker

Mr. Hadden 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 had been met. Mr. Moloney confirmed that all of those requirements and rules had been met.

**Election of Officers**

Mr. Hadden asked for nominations for Chair for 2019. Mr. McCue nominated Mr. McGregor. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Hadden. Mr. McGregor was elected to serve as Chair for 2020, effective immediately.

**Minutes of the January 21, 2020 Board Meeting**

Mr. Hadden made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2020 Board Meeting. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

**Disbursement Resolution**

Mr. McGregor inquired about the payment to the Soil & Water Conservation District and asked for the directors to inquire about potential cuts to the storm water payment. Mr. Hadden moved for approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the January 2020 invoices. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 5833 is attached to these minutes.

**Staff Reports**

**Administration:**

Planning and Design along with the Operations Section began on the design process for the nature center at Blacklick Woods. Construction is scheduled for Fall 2020

Grand Opening of the latest addition to the Camp Chase Trail has been scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 9:00am. This piece of trail through the Indian Ridge Area of the park has been built to complete our commitment throughout Franklin County.

Met with State Representative Russo to discuss Metro Parks and to voice our opposition of H.B. 466 which will eliminate statutory authority from 1545 Districts.

**Operations:**

Annual winter projects are underway including controlled succession mowing, equipment repair and maintenance. Winter Hike Series is underway with good

attendance to date. Staff is being trained in the "Stop the Bleeding" program which involves administering tourniquets in severe trauma situations. Friends of Metro Parks Volunteer Recognition Event was hosted. We continue to work on organizational restructuring and transition among the many promotions that have had. We received a WRRSP grant in the amount of \$763,000 to do streambank protection at Clear Creek. Banquet Room Renovation project is in full swing under the leadership of the Roving Crew.

**Finance:**

The primary initiative for January was implementation and district-wide training for the new accounting software. Consultants were on-site for training sessions, with a subsequent week of system implementation and launch of system for all users. Migration of data from the previous system was successful.

For the I.T. section, security cameras were fixed at park locations, network monitoring tools were deployed, active directory maintenance updates were completed, new Finance software was successfully deployed and all I.T. staff supported and participated in new Finance software training. Troubleshooting was performed on servers, PCs were upgraded and testings were on-going for Comptia, Windows, Google G-Suite, Offensive Security PWK and Microsoft MD-101.

**Human Resources:**

The Wellness Year has kicked off with a new structure and new incentives. This year, in order to qualify for a reduced health insurance deductible in 2021, benefit-covered employees must participate in 4 health items including completing an online health questionnaire, participate in a biometric screening, meet with their primary care physician (NEW), and meet 3 pre-established health targets (NEW).

Metro Parks is well into recruitment activity with numerous job fairs and interviews scheduled. In addition, Metro Parks will be focusing recruitment efforts in specific community areas to increase the opportunities to hire individuals and create a more diverse workforce within Metro Parks.

**Promotions:**

Matt Kaderly, from Assistant Park Manager at Sharon Woods to Park Manager at Highbanks, effective 01-20-2020.

**Transfers:**

Geoff Hamilton, Park Manager, from Scioto Grove to Battelle Darby Creek, effective 01-20-2020.

**New Hires:**

Mackenzie Bostard to part-time Ranger at Sharon Woods, effective 01-03-2020.  
Mark Levri to part-time Park Technician at Scioto Grove, effective 01-08-2020.

**Other Business**

The composting initiative at the Winter Hikes went extremely well, resulting in a large amounts of waste being composted. In addition, over \$5000 in merchandise was sold by the Friends of Metro Parks during the hike series.

The Customer Service Staff is planning on hosting a mass wedding event on leap day, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Mr. Moloney will be the officiant for the seven couples and Metro Parks will provide light finger foods, cake, and a non-alcoholic sparkling toast for the couples and their 12 guests.

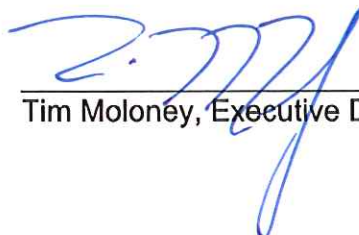
Ms. Hanley spoke briefly about Metro Parks' social media strategy and the platforms used to reach various audience groups.

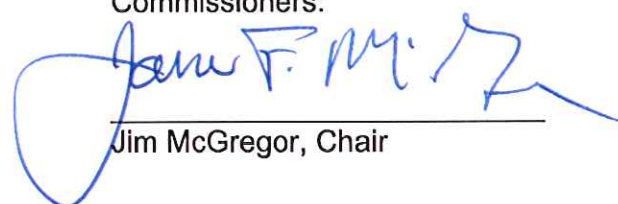
**Resolutions:**

- #5834    **AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENTS AT INNISWOOD PUBLIC GARDEN**  
The board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Oheil Site Solutions in the amount of \$340,500 for irrigation improvements.
- #5835    **AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THREE APPLICATIONS TO THE CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION FUND FOR PROPERTIES IN FRANKLIN COUNTY**  
The board authorized the Executive Director to submit two grant applications to the Clean Ohio Fund through the Ohio Public Works Commission, District 3 Natural Resources Assistance Council, to request funds to be used towards the purchase of properties for park purposes.
- #5836    **AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE WATER RESOURCE RESTORATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE CLEAR CREEK STREAM BANK AND HABITAT RESTORATION AT CLEAR CREEK METRO PARK**  
The board authorized the Executive Director to accept financial assistance through the Ohio EPA WRRSP, and further authorizes expenditures as needed to complete preliminary efforts to accomplish this project.
- #5837    **DECLARATION AND AUTHORIZING TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS IN 2020**  
The board declared equipment, furniture appliances, and scrap metal to be surplus and to be disposed of in accordance with applicable provisions of the Ohio Revised Code, and authorized the Executive Director to dispose of the surplus equipment through whichever method is to the benefit of Metro Parks in 2020, including Govdeals auction(s).
- #5838    **AUTHORIZING AMENDING A CONTRACT FOR DESIGN BUILD SERVICES AT QUARRY TRAILS METRO PARK**  
The board authorized the Director to amend Resolution 5830, enter into a design/build contract with Sheckler Excavating Inc. for \$400,000 for a single-track bike area at Quarry Trails Metro Park

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Tim Moloney, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:  
  
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Jim McGregor, Chair