

Minutes of the 918<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held at 3:00 pm on May 17, 2022 at the Northern Shelter, Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, Ohio 43035.

**Present**

Commissioners: Mr. Hadden, Mr. Alex, Mr. McCue

Staff: Mr. Moloney, Mr. Peck, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Domiano, Mr. Studenmund, Mr. Dan Kaderly, Ms. Boniface, Ms. Snyder, Mr. Laughbaum, Mr. Kasnyik, Mr. Simon, Mr. Matt Kaderly, Mr. Rosenbeck

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: Mr. Jeff Brown, Representatives from Zimmer Development, Highbanks staff, Outdoor Adventure staff

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 April 19, 2022 Board Meeting**

Mr. Alex made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2022 Board Meeting. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Jeff Brown introduced representatives from Zimmer Development. Representatives provided a handout and gave a presentation on their history and the development planned for the Whittier Peninsula. The proposed development as presented today includes three buildings with 250 units per building, constructed over ten or more years. Access is currently planned from Maier Place and from a secondary roadway through Metro Parks' property at the new dog park. Zimmer's representatives asked the Board for land to facilitate their private secondary access to the development and an easement for a stormwater outlet.

Mr. Franzmann provided information on the steps the Board would need to take to dispose of park property per Ohio Revised Code, which includes declaring said property as not being used for its intended purpose.

The Board asked several questions and raised concerns regarding increased traffic to Scioto Audubon, private access through a public dog park, the number of units/people and the impact of such increased traffic to current park visitors. The Board asked Mr. Brown to reach out to the City of Columbus about a secondary bridge over the railroad tracks to the Brewery District.

The Board took no action.

### **Disbursement Resolution #5998**

Mr. Alex moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the April 2022 invoices. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 5998 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Administration**

Mr. Moloney updated the Board on a few projects. He recently attended a meeting that provided information on the LinkUS Columbus, a mobility initiative program. The program is an opportunity to improve mobility choices and shape how the region grows in a manner that will increase transportation reliability, manage traffic congestion, support businesses and workers, provide access to housing and improve quality of life for Central Ohio residents.

Mr. Moloney also hosted an event at Blacklick Woods to recognize the Walter Tucker State Nature Preserve area as a new member of the Old Growth Forest Network. He also attended several meetings with the City of Columbus on development impacts relating to Metro Parks property.

#### **Operations**

Mr. Peck introduced Matt Kaderly, Park Manager of Highbanks, who introduced the members of his staff in attendance. Mr. Peck also introduced Mr. Simon, who introduced the Columbus Student Intern (CSI) staff, and Ms. Boniface, who introduced the Public Engagement and Social Media team.

Mr. Peck provided the following project updates; Metro Parks has received the occupancy permit for the Clear Creek maintenance building, allowing staff to begin utilizing that space; the Resource Management team was awarded their second H2Ohio grant from ODNR for a wetland restoration project adjacent to the Big Darby Creek; the rebuilt tram has been delivered to Sharon Woods; and Metro Parks continues to struggle with a lack of bids received for public bidding of projects, supply chain issues and escalating costs for materials.

#### **Finance**

Mr. McGivern updated the Board on the Finance team's current projects. The fiber optic cable project at Highbanks Metro Park was successfully bid. Property tax revenue and expenditures are both lower than projected compared to previous years.

#### **Human Resources**

Mr. Domiano provided an update in Ms. Telfer's absence. He stated that Human Resources' staff have processed through background checks and hired over 100 seasonal employees and interns. Seasonal Orientation and Training was a huge

success thanks to the Managers of Park Operations and Park Managers. The HR staff continues to screen, interview and hire applicants for critical vacancies.

### Resolutions

- #5999 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR FIBER OPTIC CONDUIT INSTALLATION AT Highbanks Metro Park  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Harris and Heavener Excavating, Inc for conduit installation in the amount of \$103,735.64.
- #6000 AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR WETLAND RESTORATION UNDER THE H2OHIO GRANT PROGRAM  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to accept financial assistance in the amount of \$500,000 through the ODNR Ohio River Basin H2Ohio Wetland grant program, to grant environmental covenants and to execute necessary documents.
- #6001 AUTHORIZING EXECUTING A CHANGE ORDER WITH R.W. SETTERLIN CONSTRUCTION CO. TO CONSTRUCT AN ACCESS TOWER TO THE BLACKLICK WOODS CANOPY WALK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a change order with R.W. Setterlin Construction Co. for construction of an access tower in the amount of \$1,100,000.
- #6002 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH PAROS ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN LLC TO COMPLETE ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE BLACKLICK WOODS CANOPY WALK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Paros Architecture + Design LLC for design services in the amount of \$85,000.
- #6003 AUTHORIZING ORDERING VEHICLES THROUGH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S GSA AUTOCHOICE (LESO) PROGRAM  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to place orders for 12 vehicles at a cost not exceed \$400,000.
- #6004 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR PAVING IMPROVEMENTS AT SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Strawser Paving Company for paving improvements in the amount of \$83,341.
- #6005 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AN INCLUSIVE PLAY FEATURE AT HOMESTEAD METRO PARK

The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Gametime, DWA Recreation for a play feature in the amount of \$280,514.33.

- #6006 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A PLAY FEATURE AT HOMESTEAD METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contract with Snider Recreation for play features in the amount of \$128,064.
- #6007 AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES TO THE CITY OF COLUMBUS FOR PROPERTY ASSOCIATED WITH BLACKLICK CREEK GREENWAY  
The Board authorized its right to transfer this property for Highway Purposes and directs and authorizes its Executive Director to seek approvals and to execute the necessary documents for granting the transfer.
- #6008 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO CHANGE ORDERS WITH VIA FERRATA WORKS FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT QUARRY TRAILS METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to execute change orders with Via Ferrata Works in the amount of \$58,531.
- #6009 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF BIKE RAMPS AT QUARRY TRAILS METRO PARK  
The Board authorized the Executive Director to purchase bike ramps from Progressive Bike Ramps in the amount of \$59,772.47.

**Other Business:**


None.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by the Board of Park  
Commissioners:

  
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Tim Moloney, Executive Director

  
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Chair