

Minutes of the 965th meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held at 3:00pm at the Innis House at Inniswood Metro Gardens at 940 South Hempstead Road, Westerville Ohio 43081.

### **Present**

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

Staff: Ms. Bassett-Smith, Mr. Domiano, Mr. Eutsey, Ms. Fleicher, Mr. Kaderly, Mr. Knowles, Mr. Laughbaum, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Moloney, Mr. Peck, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Snyder, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Tsang, Ms. Wadsworth, Ms. Willer

Guests: Mr. Litt, Ms. Litt

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 November Board Meeting**

Mr. Hadden made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2025 Board Meeting. Mr. Alex seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

### **Minutes of the December Budget Board Meeting**

Mr. Hadden made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2025 Budget Board Meeting. Mr. Alex seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. and Ms. Litt, longtime Metro Parks volunteers, joked that they enjoyed watching Jill Snyder's television interview about sledding the night before.

### **Disbursement Resolution No. 6291**

Mr. Hadden moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the November 2025 invoices. Mr. Alex seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 6291 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Administration**

Tim Moloney provided administrative updates. He met with COTA to discuss potential



LinkUs projects relating to the Heritage Trail Extension Project. He also met with Columbus Recreation and Parks to discuss potential involvement with their Art in Parks program.

Mr. Moloney also attended the premiere of ODNR's 'Wild at Heart' movie. It was an exceptional experience and has inspired us to do something similar.

### **Operations**

Bryan Knowles, Public Gardens Manager, introduced the Inniswood Staff. Inniswood has 300 volunteers, many of whom are helping overwinter the tropical plants in the greenhouse. They also plan on propagating 2,000 plants in Spring.

Larry Peck also provided updates from the district. Metro Parks weathered the first winter storms, pun intended. Sledding hills are open. Blendon Woods Nature Center Displays are being installed. Mr. Peck concluded that Metro Parks is ready for 2026.

### **Finance**

Rick McGivern updated the Board on the Finance Department. In November, revenues were above and expenditures were below. Deadline for 2025 payments is coming up. Two payroll periods were processed in November.

### **Human Resources**

J.J. Domiano provided updates from the Human Resources Department. 16 external staff have been hired, along with five internal promotions. Interviews for the Slate Run Farm position will take place this week. This position will focus less on education and interpretation and more on the actual labor of farming.

Breakfast with Santa was exceptional this year. 150 staff and family members enjoyed what Mr. Domiano calls, "the best blueberry pancakes ever."

### **Resolutions**

#### **#6292 REQUESTING TAX ADVANCES FOR 2026**

The Board approved the request for the County Auditor and County Treasurer to make tax advances to the district for the 2026 calendar year.

#### **#6263 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLES FROM BYERS FORD**

The Board approved the purchase of five vehicles from Byers Ford in the amount of approximately \$497,000 and further authorize expenditure of additional funds as needed to complete the transaction.

#### **#6294 AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS TO THE CITY OF COLUMBUS**



FOR WATER SERVICE AT BANK RUN METRO PARK

The Board approved an expenditure of \$134,056 for water capacity fees to the City of Columbus.

- #6290    AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF AN ACCESS EASEMENT WITH OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR PROPERTY AT THREE CREEKS PARK  
The Board approved the request for a temporary construction easement of approximately 0.173 acres of park property.

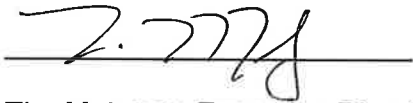
**Other Business**

None.

**Adjournment**


The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Moloney, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:

  
Chair  
