

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS**

February 14, 2014

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners (BOPC) was held at the Five Rivers MetroParks' Main Office, 409 E. Monument, 3rd Floor, Dayton, OH, on February 14, 2014, and convened at 7:33 a.m. on a roll call vote by the Board of Park Commissioners.

Present: Five Rivers MetroParks Commission President Irvin G. Bieser, Jr., Vice President Alan F. Pippenger; Commissioner Karen L. Davis, Executive Director Rebecca A. Benná, Deputy Director Carrie Scarff, Director of Human Resources Debra Jackson, Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson, Director of Marketing Trish Butler, Director of Development Beth Redden, Director of Park Services and Legislative Affairs Karen Hesser, Director of Adventure Central Nate Arnett, Lieutenant Mark Arendt, Director of Conservation David Nolin, Manager for Cox Arboretum MetroPark Russ Edgington, Marketing Research Manager Amy Forsthoefel, IT Manager Tim Clark, Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer, Project Manager Joe Zimmerman, visitor Robert Loyd and Robert Curry legal counsel.

Visitor Recognition: Executive Director Becky Benná noted that she has asked Department Directors to attend Board meetings whether they had an agenda item or not so they are kept informed of actions at these meetings. Visitor Robert Loyd was not present for the entire meeting, but attended the open session after the executive session.

Minutes: The BOPC was presented with the minutes of the regular meeting for January 10, 2014. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the minutes of the January 10, 2014, regular meeting were approved.

Financial Reports: The BOPC was presented with MetroParks' Revised December, 2013 financials. Director of Finance and Business explained that investment income was posted back to December after the reports for the January Board Meeting were compiled. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC accepted the Revised December, 2013 financials as presented.

The BOPC was also presented with MetroParks' January, 2014 financials and the Approved List of bills for January 1 – 31, 2014. Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson highlighted revenues and expenses. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC accepted MetroParks' January, 2014 financial reports as presented.

OSU Extension – Adventure Central Annual Contract: Executive Director Becky Benná requested approval to enter into a contract and encumber funds with OSU Extension (OSUE) for the 4th quarter 2013 and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters of 2014 for non-educator program staff in the amount of \$124,000. The 2013 amount was \$135,000 and funding is available in the general fund. The decrease is due to a Mathile Family Foundation Grant to OSUE in the amount of \$10,000. Director of

Adventure Central Nate Arnett gave a brief overview of the program at Adventure Central and what the contract covered. Mr. Arnett noted that the Mathile Family Foundation grant was a first-time ask, but they are interested in funding operational costs in the future. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request as presented.

Executive Director Becky Benná requested authorization to encumber funds with OSU in the amount of \$88155 for partnership support for the two educator positions as part of the long-term agreement through 2016. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.

Staff Reports:

The BOPC was presented with the Law Enforcement Activity report for January, 2014. Lieutenant Ranger Mark Arendt gave a brief overview of information contained in the report. Following a brief discussion, the BOPC thanked Mr. Arendt for his information.

Executive Director Becky Benná noted that MetroParks was the recipient of three first place OPRA awards. Manager for Cox Arboretum MetroPark Russ Edgington presented the Park Area Development award received for the Cox Tree Tower. Director of Conservation Dave Nolin presented the Natural Resources & Conservation award for the Great Miami Mitigation Bank. Marketing Research Manager Amy Forsthoefel presented the Marketing Innovation award for Hidden Nature: Celebrating 50 Years of Five Rivers MetroParks. The Commissioners congratulated MetroParks on its accomplishments. Former Commissioner Jean Woodhull also was the recipient of the OPRA Outstanding Citizen Award.

Executive Director Becky Benná gave a brief list of upcoming events that included:

- The Adventure Summit being held February 14 & 15 at Wright State University.
- Orchid Show being hosted by Cox Arboretum MetroPark on February 14 & 15.
- No Child Left Inside Summit on February 22.
- Miami Valley Gardening Conference March 1 at Sinclair Community College.

Capital Improvement Requests: Executive Director Becky Benná requested authorization to solicit bids for the MOT-Upper Wolf Creek Restoration Project-PID93246. The estimated construction cost is \$346,474, which includes a 10% contingency. Funding is available from a Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$226,028; MetroParks' General Fund in the amount of \$92,832 and from project partner City of Brookville in the amount of \$27,613. Project Manager Joe Zimmerman gave a brief overview of the project. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.

Fund Transfer Resolution: Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-006 authorizing the transfer of funds within the general fund per the request of the Montgomery County Auditor. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-006 as presented.

Other Business: Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer noted that the Commissioners needed to complete the annual conflict of interest form for the record.

Visitor Comments: Robert Loyd of Loyd Children's Center indicated that he likes MetroParks and uses them to help educate children about nature through his business. Mr. Loyd wanted to express his concern with the fee structure MetroParks recently implemented for shelter permits and how that has impacted his non-profit's use of the shelters at Hills and Dales MetroPark. Mr. Loyd wanted to know if there was a chance a partnership could be created to help his organization and other non-profits use our facilities without having to pay the permit fees. Mr. Loyd indicated he would be sending them a proposal on how an agreement might be made. The Commissioners thanked him for his information and noted that they would look at his proposal when it arrived.

Next Board Meeting: The BOPC agreed to hold the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 27, 2014, commencing at 3:00 p.m. at MetroParks' Main Office, 409 E. Monument Avenue, 3rd Floor, Dayton, Ohio. The BOPC directed the Secretary of the Board to give notice of this meeting and all subsequent meetings pursuant to the rule adopted by the BOPC.

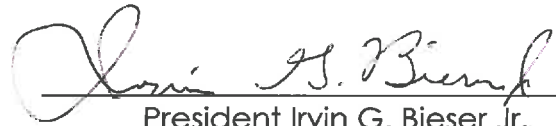
Executive Session: In accordance with the open meetings law Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, by roll call vote following a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis, the BOPC elected to temporarily adjourn and hold an Executive Session commencing at 7:57 a.m. for the specific purpose of discussing one personnel issue and two property matters. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the open session reconvened at 9:09 a.m.

Land Acquisition and Clean Ohio Grant Applications: Director of Conservation David Nolin authorization to apply for the Ohio Public Works Commission Clean Ohio Conservation Program funds for the following projects:

- Taylorsville MetroPark Addition Project which includes the purchase of 13.81 acres from Steven and Kathryn Mitchell at a total project cost of \$161,961 with MetroParks' contribution of \$40,490. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.
- Stillwater Corridor Protection and Restoration Project which includes the purchase an easement of 58 acres from the City of Dayton at a total project cost of \$83,292 with MetroParks contribution of \$0. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.
- Larch Tree Acquisition Project which includes the purchase of 189 acres from Bear Creek Farms at a total project cost of \$1,441,148 with MetroParks' contribution of \$190,673. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by

Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request as presented.

Adjournment: By roll call vote, following a motion by Commissioner Bieser and seconded by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.



President Irvin G. Bieser Jr.

Attest: 