

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

March 27, 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 March 27, 2014, and convened at 3:06 p.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 Development Beth Redden, Chief of Rangers Mark Hess, IT Manager Tim Clark, Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer, Project Manager Joe Zimmerman, Park Services Project Manager Chris Pion, Regional Park Manager Ron Bicknell, Horticulture and Agriculture Program Manager Bernadette Whitworth, Resource Interpreter Doug Horvath, Education Supervisor Luci Beachdell AmeriCorps Members Sarah Albrecht and James Latham, visitors Jacqueline Wilkerson and Paul Lamberger and Robert Curry legal counsel.

Visitor Recognition: Visitors Paul Lamberger and Jacqueline Wilkerson were recognized.

Minutes: The BOPC was presented with the minutes of the regular meeting for February 14, 2014. Commissioner Bieser asked that the reference to the Board Election of Officers be removed from the minutes. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Bieser the minutes of the February 14, 2014, regular meeting were approved.

Financial Reports: The BOPC was presented with MetroParks' February, 2014 financials and the Approved List of bills for February 1 – 28, 2014. Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson highlighted revenues and expenses. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis, the BOPC accepted MetroParks' February, 2014 financial reports as presented.

Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation Update: Executive Director Benná began with a brief overview of the proposed MetroParks Foundation and then introduced Director of Development Beth Redden. Ms. Redden briefly reported on the status of forming the foundation and some of the activities involved in developing it. The purpose and mission and by-laws have been drafted. Now there is a need for an initial Board of Directors, which Ms. Redden asked if the Board of Park Commissioners would be willing to be on the interim Foundation Board for about six months. A task force would be created to help find a permanent Board. Following a discussion the Commissioners agreed to be on the interim foundation board and thanked Ms. Redden for the information.

Staff Reports:

Law Enforcement Activity: The BOPC was presented with the Law Enforcement Activity report for February, 2014. Chief of Rangers Mark Hess gave a brief overview of information contained in the report. Following a brief discussion, the BOPC thanked Mr. Hess for his information.

Green Schoolyards: Education Supervisor Doug Horvath briefly began by noting that MetroParks has been working with the Sisters of Notre Dame AmeriCorps members for several years and currently have five members working with MetroParks in 2014. Mr. Horvath introduced AmeriCorps member James Latham and Community Gardening Supervisor Luci Beachdell introduced AmeriCorps Member Sarah Albrecht.

Mr. Latham began by explaining how the Green Schoolyard program supports MetroParks' mission and goals. Ms. Albrecht continued by providing a brief overview of the program.

Mr. Latham and Ms. Albrecht provided a PowerPoint presentation that is shared with teachers, principals and other educators to show them how the Green Schoolyard Program can benefit their students and the community. The program introduces nature to children and gets them to want to be outside. Commissioner Pippenger asked how teachers are able to have free time from teaching the standard tests. Ms. Albrecht indicated they either make the time or incorporate the program in the curriculum. It was also asked how the program works if the students aren't in the classroom during most of the growing season. It was indicated some plant cold weather crops that are able to be harvested before they leave for the summer and some establish work groups throughout the summer to keep the gardens going.

Mr. Horvath noted the Miami Valley Leave NO Child Inside is working with Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission to help develop ways for children to have a safe, unsupervised, outdoor space to play.

Following a brief discussion the Commissioners thanked Mr. Latham, Ms. Albrecht, Ms. Beachdell and Mr. Horvath for the information.

Professional Service Contract: Executive Director Becky Benná requested authorization to work with a Commissioner to approve the final cost estimate for the Eastwood Lagoon Bridge Replacement project and authorize advertising a Request for Proposal (RFP). Project Manager Joe Zimmerman gave a brief overview of the project to include where the bridge is located within the park and is hoping to have the bridge replaced by the Midwest Outdoor Experience event in October. The process is going to be a little different by doing a design/build RFP which is the reason for asking to work with a Commissioner to approve the final estimate and ad for RFP before the next Board meeting in April. Following a brief discussion and on motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request and indicated the first available Commissioner would be acceptable.

Worker's Compensation: Executive Director Benná requested authorization to release payment to Montgomery County OMB for 2014 Worker's Compensation annual charges in the amount of \$141,759. The 2013 amount was \$105,372. The reasons for the difference include a calculation rate change and the fact the calculation is

based on budgeted salaries including vacancies. Following a brief discussion and on motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.

Budget Adjustment Resolutions: Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-007 authorizing the transfer of funds within the general fund. Funds are being transferred into appropriate codes to align with actual expenses. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and seconded by Commissioner Davis the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-007 as presented.

Business Manager requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-008 revising Resolution No. 14-004 for the appropriation and adjustment of funds within the capital projects fund. On motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-008 as presented.

ODOT Resolution: Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-009 relative to PID97103 allowing MetroParks to take part in ODOT's Bridge Inspection Program Services for bridge load rating calculations. There is no charge for these services. Park Services Project Manager Chris Pion explained MetroParks gave a brief overview of the program and that MetroParks has a need to have at least one bridge load tested at Carriage Hill MetroPark. Following a brief discussion and on motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-009 as presented.

Personnel Resolution: Executive Director Benná asked Commissioner Bieser to read aloud Resolution No. 14-010 recognizing Robert Johnson on his service with MetroParks. Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson said a few words and thanked everyone for their kind words. On motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-010 as presented.

Other Business: Executive Director Benná noted that MetroParks is working with community partners to bring Bike Share to Dayton. This will include a financial contribution to be budgeted next year and it was noted there would be a news conference tomorrow about the future Bike Share program

Ms. Benná noted that the US Army Corps of Engineers has approved the permit for the RiverScape River Run project.

Ms. Benná also noted that Eric Sauer has been hired as the Park Project Planner.


Visitor Comments: No visitor comments.

Next Board Meeting: The BOPC agreed to hold the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 24, 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 4:34 p.m. for the specific purpose of discussing one personnel item and one property item. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the open session reconvened at 5:14 p.m.

Adjournment: By roll call vote, following a motion by Commissioner Bieser and seconded by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC adjourned the meeting at 5:14 p.m.



President Irvin G. Bieser Jr.

Attest: 