

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

August 16, 2013

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners (BOPC) was held at the Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office, 409 E. Monument Avenue, 3rd Floor, Dayton, OH, on August 16, 2013, and convened at 7:37 a.m. on a roll call vote by the Board of Park Commissioners.

Present: Five Rivers MetroParks Commission President Karen L. Davis, Vice President Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.; Commissioner Alan F. Pippenger, Executive Director Rebecca A. Benná, Deputy Director Carrie Scarff, Director of Human Resources Debra Jackson, Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson, Chief Ranger Mark Hess, Director of Park Services and Legislative Affairs Karen Hesser, Director of Conservation David Nolin, Director of Development Beth Redden, Director of Marketing Trish Butler, Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer, IT Manager Tim Clark, Project Manager Joe Zimmerman, Outdoor Connections Program Operations Manager, Outdoor Recreation Coordinator Tom Helbig, visitors Paul Lamberger, City of Riverside Mayor Bill Flaute, City of Riverside Council Member Steve Fullenkamp, City of Riverside Citizen Al Fletcher and Robert Curry legal counsel.

Visitor Recognition: Executive Director Benná introduced new staff attendee Director of Marketing Trish Butler and visitors Paul Lamberger, Bill Flaute, Steve Fullenkamp and Al Fletcher.

Minutes: The BOPC was presented with the minutes of the regular meeting for July 12, 2013. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger the minutes of the July 12, 2013, regular meeting were approved as presented.

Financial Reports: The BOPC was presented with MetroParks' July, 2013 financials and approved the list of bills for July 1 – 31, 2013. Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson gave a brief overview of current revenues and expenses. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Bieser, the BOPC accepted MetroParks' June 2013 financial reports as presented.

Commissioner Pippenger asked about the reserve cash amount and whether anything was determined about a limit. Director of Finance and Business Robert Johnson indicated that he would have a recommendation for the budget work session in November.

Staff Reports: The BOPC was presented with the Law Enforcement Activity report for July, 2013. Chief Ranger Mark Hess gave a brief overview of information contained in the report. Following a brief discussion, the BOPC thanked Mr. Hess for his information.

Outdoor Recreation Coordinator Tom Helbig provided a PowerPoint presentation on the upcoming Midwest Outdoor Experience (MOX) event. Mr. Helbig began by providing an overview of his role at MetroParks, which included a list of the events he is responsible for organizing.

- Mr. Helbig discussed the history of MOX formerly known as GearFest, which began in 2005 at the 2nd Street Market as nothing more than a gear swap meet.
- In 2009 the event became too big for the Market area and was moved to Eastwood MetroPark.
- At the 2011 event it was announced the event name would be changed to the Midwest Outdoor Experience (MOX).
- Moving the event to Eastwood MetroPark allowed for the event to become more of a festival and included availability of overnight camping and the additional paddle sport demonstrations on the river.
- This event has received national attention from large sponsors and the outdoor recreation industry.

Tom answered questions and following a brief discussion the BOPC thanked Mr. Helbig for his presentation.

Miami Conservancy District: Executive Director Benná requested approval to encumber and pay the Miami Conservancy district \$214,000 per the River Corridor Improvement Agreement approved July 12, 2013. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request as presented.

Other Business: Executive Director Benná will be attending and presenting at a conference beginning August 28. Following the conference, she will then be on vacation through September 16.

Visitor Comments: Visitor Al Fletcher explained where he lived in the City of Riverside and noted that he was happy the bikeway was constructed, but there are issues with changes made to Huberville Avenue as part of the bikeway construction. Mr. Fletcher indicated the road was changed to a one-way road. This makes it difficult for residents to get in and out of their driveways especially if they have a larger vehicle like a pickup truck. In addition to this concern the bicyclists are using a yard as a short-cut to get around a barrier to Huberville Avenue. Mr. Fletcher felt that there was a lack of communication to the residents that would be adjacent to the bikeway and that the details of the design were not shared with them during the process. Mr. Fletcher also noted his experience kayaking on the Mad River near Eastwood and that the cleanup of the river in this area was amazing except for a huge guardrail sticking up out of the water near the Harshman Road Bridge.

After talking with staff and the Commissioners, City of Riverside Council Member Steve Fullenkamp stated he believes the City of Riverside and MetroParks are on the same page in addressing the Huberville Avenue concerns. The only problem is the fence that was installed on Huberville Avenue as part of the bikeway construction making the road one-way. Mr. Fullenkamp said he would be diligent in working on getting this issue resolved and asked that MetroParks work with the City of Riverside to resolve this issue. Mr. Fullenkamp thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to speak and wanted say that he liked the bikeway.

City of Riverside Mayor Bill Flaute stated that his concern is that the fence installed on Huberville Avenue will also make plowing snow difficult. Mr. Flaute noted he was excited about the Mad River Run project beginning construction on the river at Eastwood.

Commissioner Karen Davis stated that MetroParks hears their concerns and will work with them to help resolve the issues.

Next Board Meeting: The BOPC agreed to hold the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 17, 2013, 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 Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC elected to temporarily adjourn and hold an Executive Session commencing at 8:40 a.m. for the specific purpose of discussing three land matters and one personnel issue. On motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the open session reconvened at 9:23 a.m.

Open Session: Director of Conservation Dave Nolin requested authorization to submit an application to the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Fund for the 8.45 acre Possum Creek MetroPark Prairie Addition project. The project total is \$58,133 MetroParks' local match commitment is \$14,533. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request.

Director of Conservation Dave Nolin requested authorization to submit an application to the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Fund for the 13.51 acre Twin Creek MetroParks Woods and Wetland Preservation project. The project total is \$115,621 with a MetroParks local match commitment of \$28,905. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request.

Director of Conservation Dave Nolin requested authorization to submit an application to the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Fund for the 20.332 acre Shiloh Woods Headwater Stream Protection Project. The project total is \$438,010 with a local match commitment of \$109,502. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC approved the request.

Adjournment: By roll call vote, following motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Attest: Rebecca A. Banna

Karen L. Davis
President Karen L. Davis