

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

September 12, 2014

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners (BOPC) was held at the Five Rivers MetroParks' Main Office, 409 E. Monument, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Dayton, OH, on September 12, 2014, and convened at 7:35 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 Conservation Dave Nolin, Director of Human Resources Debra Jackson, Director of Parks and Legislative Services Karen Hesser, Director of Development Beth Redden, Chief Ranger Mark Hess, Director of Marketing Trish Butler, Director of Outdoor Connections Amy Dingle, Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer, Park Planning Manager Eric Sauer, Project Manager Joe Zimmerman, Park Manager Todd Catchpole, IT Manager Tim Clark, visitor Paul Lamberger and legal counsel Robert Curry.

**Visitor Recognition:** Paul Lamberger, visitor.

**Minutes:** The BOPC was presented with the minutes of the regular meeting for August 8, 2014. On a motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the minutes of the August 8, 2014, regular meeting were approved.

**Financial Reports:** The BOPC was presented with MetroParks' August, 2014 financials and the Approved List of bills for August 1 – 31, 2014. Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer highlighted revenues and expenses. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC accepted MetroParks' August, 2014 financial reports as presented.

**Staff Reports:**

**Law Enforcement Activity:** The BOPC was presented with the Law Enforcement Activity report for August, 2014. 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.

**New National Standards for Nature Play and Learning Places:** Executive Director Benná began with an overview of Nature Play. Park Manager Todd Catchpole continued with a PowerPoint presentation explaining what nature play actually is and why it's beneficial to children. The presentation also included case studies that are included in the national guide; one such study was conducted at Hills and Dales MetroPark. Mr. Catchpole suggested going to [www.natureplayandlearning.org](http://www.natureplayandlearning.org) to view the entire guide. Mr. Catchpole also shared some risk management procedures

MetroParks implemented to remove hazards. Following a brief discussion the Commissioners thanked Mr. Catchpole for the information.

**2014-2015 Amounts and Rates:** Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-024 establishing the amounts and rates for 2015 property tax income. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-024 as presented.

**Clean Ohio Grant:** Park Planning Manager Eric Sauer provided a brief over of the proposed Chinquapin Overlook project that would require the purchase of approximately 4.25 acres adjacent to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. Mr. Sauer also included a budget for the project. The Commissioners asked about the fact we are purchasing property adjacent to property that we don't own. The answer is we do this at other locations and we could legally handle the issue when or if it arises.

Director of Conservation Dave Nolin requested authorization to apply for a Clean Ohio Greenspace Grant for the Chinquapin Overlook Project at a total grant request of \$124,000; MetroParks' share would be zero. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request to apply for the grant.

Director of Conservation Dave Nolin also requested authorization to purchase 4.25 acre Anderson property adjacent to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. The purchase is contingent upon receiving award of the Clean Ohio Grant. The purchase price would be \$60,000 with MetroParks' share totaling zero. On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request contingent upon award of the Clean Ohio Grant.

**Capital Improvements:** Executive Director Benná requested authorization to solicit proposals to replace the Eastwood Lagoon Bridget at an estimated cost of \$222,000. Project Manager Joe Zimmerman gave an overview of the project and indicated that the bridge was determined to be unsafe for vehicular traffic. Following a discussion and on motion by Commissioner Pippenger and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.

**Nature Works Grant:** Executive Director Benná requested approval and adoption of Resolution No 14-025 authorizing the submission of an Ohio Department of Natural Resources Nature Works grant application for the Germantown Nature Center Improvements project. Park Planning Manager Eric Sauer gave a brief overview of the project including some of the changes that would be made and other elements to enhance the public's experience at this location. Following a brief discussion and on a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC approved the request as presented.

**Mad River Recreation Trail Budget Adjustment:** Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-026 for appropriation adjustments in the MOT-Mad River Bikeway Grant PID77848 budget.

On a motion by Commissioner Bieser and second by Commissioner Davis the BOPC adopted Resolution No 14-026 as presented.

**2014 MetroParks General Fund Budget Adjustments:** Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 14-027 for appropriation adjustments in MetroParks 2014 General Fund budget. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No 14-027 as presented.

**Transfer and Capital Project Fund Resolutions:** Business Manager Jennifer Grusenmeyer requested approval and adoption of the following resolutions:

- Resolution No. 14-028 for the transfer of funds within the General Fund. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-028 as presented.
- Resolution No. 14-029 for the transfer of funds between the General Fund and the Capital Projects Fund. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-029 as presented.
- Resolution No. 14-030, revising Resolution No. 14-023, for the adjustment of funds in the Capital Projects Fund on a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC adopted Resolution No. 14-030 as presented.

**Other Business:** Executive Director Benná informed the Commissioners that Regional Park Manager Mark Davis will be retiring September 26 and they are invited to a reception on September 25 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Benná also asked if the Commissioner received their invitation to the Volunteer Recognition event that will be held on September 17.

Ms. Benná noted the Midwest Outdoor Experience is scheduled for the first weekend in October at Eastwood MetroPark.

**Visitor Comments:** No visitor comments.

**Next Board Meeting:** The BOPC agreed to hold the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 10, 2014, commencing at 7:30 a.m. at MetroParks' Main Office, 409 E. Monument Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Dayton, Ohio, with a tour of facilities immediately following the meeting. 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.

The BOPC also scheduled two work sessions on November 14 immediately following the regular meeting and November 25 beginning at 7:30 a.m. Both will be held at MetroParks' Main Office, 409 E. Monument Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Dayton, Ohio, with a tour of facilities immediately following the meeting. The BOPC directed the Secretary of the Board to give notice of these meetings 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 9:06 a.m. for the specific purpose of discussing one property item and one personnel matter. On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the open session reconvened at 9:21 a.m.

**Reconvene Open Session:** On a motion by Commissioner Davis and second by Commissioner Pippenger the BOPC authorized the Executive Director to proceed with acceptance of the highest offer received to-date for the sale of Leland Center property after first determining if there is another offer that might change this acceptance.

**Adjournment:** By roll call vote, following a motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Pippenger, the BOPC adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

Attest:

Rebecca A. Denna

  
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President Irvin G. Bieser Jr.