

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
BUDGET WORK SESSION
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS**

November 19, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners (BOPC) was held at Five Rivers MetroParks Main Office, 409 E. Monument Avenue, Dayton, Ohio, on December 19, 2024, and convened at 12:33 p.m. on a roll call vote by the Board of Park Commissioners.

Present:

Five Rivers MetroParks Commission President Karen L. Davis, Commissioner Jessica Salem, Commissioner Bear Monita, Chief Executive Officer Karen Hesser, Chief of Public Safety Mark Hess, Chief of Philanthropy Alexis Larsen, Chief of Planning and Projects Carrie Scarff, Chief of Administration Bill Tschirhart, Chief of Operations Chris Pion, Director of Marketing and Public Engagement Shelli DiFranco, Research & Analysis Manager Amy Forsthoefel, and Executive Assistant Christianna Romer.

Visitors Present: Sydney Dawes (Dayton Daily News, and Paul Lamberger

Budget Work Session:

- CEO Karen Hesser updated the BOPC on the status of MetroParks' 2024 Strategic Areas of Focus, including: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategy; Climate Change Mitigation Strategy; and Financial Health Strategy.
- The BOPC was presented with the 2024 year-end budget estimates, 2024/2025 budget comparison, and proposed 2025 budgets.
- The BOPC requested a list of the names of the ten Black community leaders who were interviewed by the DEI consultant.
- The BOPC requested a bi-monthly update on current capital projects to include the dollar amount obligated, the timeline, and status.

Visitor Comments: Mr. Lamberger asked when MetroParks will be able to spend money from the new 1.0 mill levy. Ms. Hesser replied that the new levy will be in effect on January 1, 2025.

Next Board Meeting:

- The BOPC agreed to hold the next regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, December 13 at 8:00 a.m. at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. 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.

Adjournment: On a motion by Commissioner Salem, the BOPC adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Approved:

President Karen L. Davis

Attest: _____