

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Natural Resources Citizen Advisory Committee
Tuesday February 14th, 2023 | 3:00 PM
MetroParks Farm – Classroom A
Prepared by Nick Derico, *Natural Resources Manager*



Committee Members in Attendance

Nick Derico | Joshua Noble | Ryan Jackson | Sean Baran | Peter Milliken | Sara Scudier | John Zimmerman | Ronald Kichton | Gary Davenport | Joshua Emanuelson |

Public Attendees:

Justin Rogers, MCMP	



I. Call to Order – 3:02 PM

Old Business

- * **Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes**
Nick Derico provided the meeting minutes from the previous meeting (10.06.22), members reviewed the minutes and offered no revisions or corrections. Sean Baran motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Joshua Emanuelson.
- * **Roll Call**
Voting Aye – Scudier, Derico, Baran, Milliken, Emanuelson, Jackson
Voting Nay - None

II. **New Business**

Review of On-Going 2023 Natural Resources Projects

Hemlock Wolly Adelgid

1. Derico shared an update on hemlock woolly adelgid in the Park including continued treatment in the areas of Slippery Rock Trail, Bears Den Cabin, and Cascade Run. Survey efforts will continue to determine the success of previous treatments and

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- monitor for the spread of HWA into other areas of the MetroParks.
2. Milliken asked if other tree species such as the American elm have received treatment throughout the MetroParks to protect against Dutch Elm Disease. Derico & Rogers confirmed that only a small number of specimen trees had ever been treated.
 3. Jackson asked about future expansion of HWA treatments into Yellow Creek Park, noting the high ecological value of the eastern hemlock in the YCP ecosystem. Derico responded that yes, the MetroParks is working towards the expansion of treatments into YCP in future years as timing and budget allows.
 4. Emanuelson questioned whether the MetroParks had seen evidence of other invasive pests such as the Spotted Lanternfly. Derico responded that no at this time there is no indication that the Spotted Lanternfly is located on MetroParks property but that the MetroParks is remaining diligent in monitoring for this species.

Hawkins Marsh Improvements

5. Derico shared that the MetroParks has recently been awarded grant funding through the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund for the development of the newly acquire Hawkins Marsh property located in Smith Township. Improvements to the property will include a parking lot, trail system, signage, and invasive species treatment.

Committee Goals

1. Derico presented the Committee goals from 2022 and asked the group to discuss any changes they would like to make moving forward in 2023. The group offered no changes and Emanuelson motioned to approve the goals as presented, this motion was seconded by Milliken.

Roll Call

Voting Aye – Scudier, Derico, Baran, Milliken, Emanuelson, Jackson
Voting Nay - None

White-tailed Deer in the MetroParks

1. Derico gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee, which was a repeat of the same presentation given to the Board of Park Commissioners on Monday 2/14 titled “White-tailed Deer in the MetroParks – Part I” which detailed current conditions of deer throughout the MetroParks, including aerial infrared survey data collected in January of 2022.
2. Following the presentation, the group evaluated and discussed the current status of white-tailed deer in the MetroParks, including current survey data, environmental impacts, and the process for collecting public input.

Open Discussion

1. None

Public Comments

III. None

Committee Questions/Comments.

IV. None

Date of Next Meeting

V. TBD – Derico will send Doodle Poll

VI. **Adjournment** – 4:27 PM

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