

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF MILL CREEK  
METROPARKS

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Monday, January 12, 2026.

The meeting opened at 5:00 p.m., with a recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Aaron Young, Board Secretary/Executive Director welcomed staff and guests.

Roll Call was as follows:

Lee Frey;	Present
Jeff Harvey;	Present
Jim Houck;	Present
Paul Olivier;	Present
Katharine Paull;	Present

Aaron Young, Executive Director opened the floor up for nominations for the position of President. Jeff Harvey nominated Paul Olivier for President. The nomination was seconded by Lee Frey and after discussion including no additional nominations, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:	Frey, Harvey, Houck, Paull
Abstain:	Olivier
Voting Nay:	None

Aaron Young, Executive Director turned control of the meeting over to Paul Olivier, Board President.

Paul Olivier thanked the Board for their support, welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Paul Olivier nominated Jeff Harvey as Vice President. The nomination was seconded by Lee Frey and after discussion including no additional nominations, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:	Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull
Voting Nay:	None

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2025. Paul asked the Board if there were any edits or corrections and, with their being none, Paul accepted the minutes into the record as written.

Public Comments to the Board: (see sign-in sheet)

- Cathy Doslovic welcomed the two new Board members to the Park. She stated that she has a connection to the Park as a result of living on Glacier Drive. She has 63 years of connections with the Park. She read a prepared statement about her experiences in the Park. She hopes that new Board Members would give great thought and discernment in making decisions. She noted that her group has been labeled for their position on deer management and she is fine with that as she would rather not just stand by and let these type of decisions regarding the deer be made.
- Stan Socha noted that he was a big walker within the Park. He recommended a bathroom be installed at the Flats, due to Pioneer Pavilion being closed and that the area receives a lot of use. He likes the trail work that has been done to the trails and thanked Justin. He recommended having tree carvers carve things into dead trees within the Park.
- Jerry Serbel stated that he lives on Bears Den Road. He read a prepared statement inclusive of quotes from the Vindicator's Sound Off section regarding the deer and destruction of vegetation. He agrees with the statement. He requested that the park use the money that it receives to plant

food for the deer. He believes the voters would think twice about renewing the levy. He questions what the Park is doing with the money. He welcomed the new members.

- Carol Mindia stated that she attended the December meeting at Fellows and questioned the report that was given from the representative of the MetroParks Foundation. She noted the monies donated by Rick Shale. She questioned if there is a coincidence in doing the deer management shortly after the passing of Rick, whom was an animal lover.
- Chris Flak welcomed the new Board Members and hoped that they question the things going in Mill Creek Park. She stated that as taxpayers they have the right to come to the meeting and express their disagreement with the deer management plan. She quoted Ian Wilson and his opinion of the area species principle. She is opposed to the Park cutting trees.
- Abby Ivan noted that she had a friend call her about a deer that had been hit by a car. She stated that Boardman Township noted that the deer was hit on private property therefore, they could not take it. She noted the small size of the deer and that it was like those being harvested within the Park. She believes that people find this difficult to hear. She stated that the police officers noted that there were in fact coyotes.
- Kathy Maine asked to be able to speak even though she did not sign up and President Olivier permitted her to speak. She stated that killing all the animals does not help the ecosystem. She believes the Park is a mess. She noted that all people love that Park and it is part of their lives. She asked if there is anything she can do to get the Park to stop the killing of the deer.

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented the Department Report for Finance and requested that disbursements #97157 – #97286 for a total of \$1,246,334.34, be approved. Paul Olivier moved, to accept the recommendation of the Finance Director, that the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #97157 – #97286 for a total of \$1,246,334.34, be approved. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey and after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

Zack Torok, Staff Accountant presented the Quarterly Credit Card Report for the Fourth Quarter of 2025. Aaron noted that no action was needed. Commissioner Harvey inquired if there were any changes and Zack noted that there was one change to the limits of the card for Megan Hanley for the use of OBWC.

Aaron Young, Executive Director, on behalf of the MetroParks Administration acknowledged Officer Paul Brode for his 27 years of dedicated service to the MetroParks ahead of his planned retirement at the end of January.

Paul Olivier moved to exit regular session and enter executive session at 5:26 pm to consider the appointment, employment, discipline, or compensation of public employees. The motion was seconded by Lee Frey, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

Paul Olivier moved to exit executive session and return to regular session at 5:51 pm. The motion was seconded by Lee Frey after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

Zack Torok, Staff Accountant presented the 2026 Chemical & Fertilizer Bids for approval. Bids were received from six (6) bidders. It was recommended that the lowest and best bids from all six (6) vendors for the products bid be utilized. Paul Olivier moved to accept the recommendation of the Staff Accountant

and accept the lowest and best bids from all six (6) vendors. The motion was seconded by Lee Frey and after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

Megan Hanley, HR & Administrative Services Director presented the following individuals for appointment to the Citizens Advisory Committees, for approval.

- Renee Kenneally-Recreation Committee
- Philip Martin-Recreation Committee
- Lana Ilian-Education Committee
- John Vag-Recreation Committee
- Kathleen McCord-Recreation Committee

Paul Olivier moved to accept the recommendation of the HR & Administrative Services Director and to approve the applicants. The motion was seconded by Jim Houck and after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

Randy Campana, Chief of Police presented and requested approval of the January 2026 Lexipol Police Policies. Paul Olivier moved to accept the recommendation of the Chief of Police and approve the January 2026 Lexipol Police Policies. The motion was seconded by Lee Frey and after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

Randy Campana, Chief of Police presented the Law Enforcement Trust Fund. Aaron noted that no action was needed and that the fund is also included on the cover page of the 2026 Permanent Budget that will be reviewed later in the meeting.

Justin Rogers, Planning & Operations Director, presented the planned 2026 Capital Improvement Projects. All projects presented are included in the 2026 Permanent Budget. Justin shared that the presentation will be uploaded to the MetroParks website for all to view and reference.

Nick Morchak Finance Director/Treasurer presented and requested approval of the 2026 Permanent Budget. Paul Olivier moved to accept the recommendation of the Finance Director and approved the 2026 Permanent Budget. The motion was seconded by Lee Frey and after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
Voting Nay: None

**2026 Budget - Income & Expense Summary Sheet**

Finance Department  
 Last updated: January 7th 2026  
 Prepared by: Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer



	Special Revenue Funds					Ford Center Redev. (809)	Total All Funds	
	General Fund (100)	Unclaimed Funds (200)	Replacement Reserve (701)	Law Enforce. Asst. Fund (702)				
<b>Carryover</b>								
Unencumbered Cash Balance	2,679,026.66	7,747.78	636,726.39	20,316.50	-	-	<b>3,343,817.33</b>	51%
Prior Year Encumbrances	3,095,126.11	-	169,829.50	-	-	-	<b>3,264,955.61</b>	49%
<b>Total Carryover</b>	<b>\$ 5,774,152.77</b>	<b>\$ 7,747.78</b>	<b>\$ 806,555.89</b>	<b>\$ 20,316.50</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,608,772.94</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Estimated Revenue</b>								
General Property Tax	7,795,631.00	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7,795,631.00</b>	55%
Intergovernmental Revenues	830,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	<b>830,000.00</b>	6%
Local Government Fund	420,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	<b>420,000.00</b>	3%
Park Activities	3,242,070.00	100.00	-	-	-	-	<b>3,242,170.00</b>	23%
Gas Well Income	-	-	40,000.00	-	-	-	<b>40,000.00</b>	0%
Grant Revenues	-	-	1,159,891.96	-	-	-	<b>1,159,891.96</b>	8%
Third Party Funding	340,900.00	-	-	-	470,214.52	-	<b>811,114.52</b>	6%
<b>Total Estimated Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 12,628,601.00</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,199,891.96</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 470,214.52</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 14,298,807.48</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Carryover &amp; Estimated Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 18,402,753.77</b>	<b>\$ 7,847.78</b>	<b>\$ 2,006,447.85</b>	<b>\$ 20,316.50</b>	<b>\$ 470,214.52</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 20,907,580.42</b>	
<b>Appropriations</b>								
Park Operations - Materials & Supplies	4,591,684.00	-	-	-	470,214.52	-	<b>5,061,898.52</b>	31%
Park Operations - Salaries & Wages	7,362,517.77	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7,362,517.77</b>	45%
Capital Equipment	266,366.00	-	-	-	-	-	<b>266,366.00</b>	2%
Capital Improvements	2,086,900.00	-	1,506,919.96	-	-	-	<b>3,593,819.96</b>	22%
<b>Total 2026 Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 14,307,467.77</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,506,919.96</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 470,214.52</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 16,284,602.25</b>	<b>100%</b>
Outstanding Purchase Orders (2025)	3,095,126.11	-	169,829.50	-	-	-	<b>3,264,955.61</b>	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 17,402,593.88</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,676,749.46</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 470,214.52</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 19,549,557.86</b>	
<b>Projected Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,159.89</b>	<b>\$ 7,847.78</b>	<b>\$ 329,698.39</b>	<b>\$ 20,316.50</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,358,022.56</b>	

Chris Litton, Development Director presented the MetroParks Foundation donation report for the period of December 1-31, 2025, at a total of \$48,309.83, for approval. Paul Olivier moved to accept the recommendation of the Director of Development and approve the donation report for the period of December 1-31, 2025, at a total of \$48,309.83. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
 Voting Nay: None

Chris Litton, Development Director presented and requested approval of Resolution R-26-01 Acknowledgement of Grants, Donations, or Trusts for the period of October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Paul Olivier moved to accept the recommendation of the Director of Development and approve Resolution R-26-01 Acknowledgement of Grants, Donations, or Trusts for the period of October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Lee Frey, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:


Voting Aye: Frey, Harvey, Houck, Olivier, Paull  
 Voting Nay: None

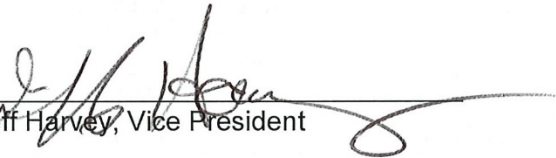
Resolution R-26-01

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRANTS, DONATIONS, OR TRUSTS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to acknowledge the grants, donations or trusts submitted to the Park District for the period of October 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025 as detailed on the summary marked Exhibit A, and authorize legal counsel to make application to the Probate Court pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 1545.11 for approval and to secure Journal Entry of the Probate Court.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, We, the Board of Park Commissioners hereunto set our hand this 12<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2026.

  
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Paul Olivier, President

  
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Jeff Harvey, Vice President

  
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Lee Frey, Commissioner

  
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Jim Houck, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Katharine Paull, Commissioner

## 4th Quarter 2025 Donor Log

January 5, 2026

Prepared by: Chris Litton

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Date</u>
Tom Shipka	\$100.00	General End.	10/1/2025
Joyce Mistovich	\$100.00	FRG End.	5/17/2025
American Jr. Golf Foundation	\$9,046.00	Golf End.	10/2/2025
Angela Mudrak	\$50.00	FRG End.	10/3/2025
Fireline, Inc.	\$4,000.00	Tree Trust	9/25/2025
Karen Morris	\$25.00	Children's Garden	9/25/2025
Nanci Cashbaugh	\$100.00	General	9/30/2025
Laurel Ann Python	\$100.00	Tree Trust	9/24/2025
Capital Group	\$5,000.00	Children's Garden	9/29/2025
WesBanco Trust	\$2,500.00	General	10/2/2025
DAR Canfield	\$2,000.00	Golf End.	10/22/2025
LPL Financial	\$10,000.00	Children's Garden	10/15/2025
Debi Martin	\$100.00	Tree Trust	10/3/2025
Marcie Papik	\$100.00	Tree Trust	10/18/2025
William Tiberio	\$100.00	General	10/15/2025
Randall Spencer	\$200.00	General	10/15/2025
Frank Dascenzo	\$100.00	General	10./15/2025
Mark Palchak	\$100.00	Tree Trust	10/17/2025
Mary Rose Nordquist	\$100.00	Tree Trust	10/28/2025
Stephanie Nevontne	\$250.00	Tree Trust	10/17/2025
Amy Davis	\$200.00	General	10/29/2025
Norma Fravel	\$200.00	Tree Trust	10/23/2025
Ethan Tabor	\$25.00	General	10/11/2025
Gayle Barbarini	\$75.00	Children's Garden	10/4/2025
Tom Shipka	\$100.00	General	11/1/2025
Frank & Judy Sees	\$100.00	General	11/14/2025
Lori Kratofil	\$5,000.00	General	11/3/2025
Scott Johnson	\$10,602.90	Children's Garden	11/15/2025
Community Foundation of the M.V.	\$2,500.00	Children's Garden	9/26/2025
Brenda McDougal	\$40.00	Children's Garden	11/3/2025
Ethan Tabor	\$25.00	General	11/11/2025
Tom Shipka	\$100.00	General	12/1/2025
Rocky Ridge Neighborhood Ass.	\$1,234.83	Wick	10/29/2025
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.	\$300.00	FRG	12/11/2025
Dennis Berry	\$500.00	Yellow Creek	11/12/2025
Fidelity Charitable	\$500.00	Rose Garden	12/22/2025
Bank of America	\$5,000.00	General	12/2/2025
Valmark Securites, Inc.	\$28,000.00	Children's Garden	10/29/2025
Fidelity Charitable	\$1,000.00	General	12/9/2025
Thomas DeToro	\$1,500.00	Children's Garden	12/16/2025
Stacey Henry	\$50.00	Tree Trust	12/16/2025
The John DePizzio, Jr. Family FDN	\$10,000.00	Children's Garden	11/25/2025
Raellen Forman	\$25.00	Children's Garden	12/20/2025
Lora Graneto	\$25.00	Children's Garden	12/29/2025
Ethan Tabor	\$25.00	General	12/11/2025
Paul McConnell	\$50.00	Tree Trust	12/31/2025
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$101,248.73</b>		

Commissioner Comments:

- Paul Olivier: Paul welcomed the new commissioners to the Board. Paul thanked the staff for their work on the 2026 budget.
- Jeff Harvey: Jeff welcomed the new commissioners to the Board. Jeff responded to Chris Flak's previous comments regarding the use and validity of trail cameras and their accuracy. Jeff noted that there are many peer reviewed articles supporting the use of trail cameras for population surveys/estimates.
- Lee Frey: Lee wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- Jim Houck: Jim thanked everyone for the well wishes that he has received after being appointed to the Board.
- Katharine Paull: Katharine is honored to be selected for the Board and will work hard to preserve the Park for future generations.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., in McMahon Hall located at the MetroParks Farm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:24 p.m.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary