

Canfield, OH
March 16, 2009

The Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks met in Regular Session on Monday, March 16, 2009, with members M. Virginia Dailey, Jay Macejko, and Carl Nunziato present.

At 5:00 p.m. Mr. Al Frasz of Dovetail Solar and Wind gave a one-hour presentation on the opportunities that are available for the MetroParks to utilize solar and wind power. The MetroParks is interested in using solar and wind power at the MetroParks Farm.

The regular session of the meeting continued at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Nunziato moved the Minutes of the Meetings of December 15, 2008, be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dailey and passed.

Mr. Macejko moved the Minutes of the Meetings of February 18, 2009, be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dailey and passed.

Mr. Nunziato moved the Minutes of the Meetings of March 12, 2009, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Macejko and passed.

Dave Christy, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Nunziato moved, the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #46255 through #46358 be approved.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Macejko and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Dailey, Macejko, Nunziato
Voting Nay: None

Tom Bresko, Recreation & Programs Director, gave a brief presentation on the "Hike for the Health of It" program. Qualifying participants were awarded walking sticks and MetroParks stick shields which they earned in 2008. The Board congratulated the awardees.

Carl Antonelli, a member of the Wednesday Walkers hiking group, presented former MetroPark Commissioner and member of the Wednesday Walkers hiking group, Rick Shale, a plaque thanking him for his support and time spent with the group.

Ginny Dailey presented, and Mr. Nunziato motioned to accept Resolution R-09-05 Honoring Rick Shale for his Service to Mill Creek MetroParks.

R-09-05
A RESOLUTION HONORING

DR. RICK SHALE

FOR HIS SERVICE TO MILL CREEK METROPARKS

WHEREAS: Dr. Shale has worked diligently to foster the advancement of Mill Creek MetroParks and its mission to provide open space and recreational opportunities of

regional
importance in Mahoning County;

WHEREAS: Dr. Shale served as a committed and extraordinarily active Mill Creek MetroParks Commissioner from 2005 through 2008;

WHEREAS: Dr. Shale co-authored the book, "Historic Mill Creek Park," and wrote numerous other articles about Mill Creek MetroParks based upon his rich knowledge of the Mill Creek MetroParks past and present;

WHEREAS: Dr. Shale contributed an enormous amount of time observing, participating in, and assisting with Mill Creek MetroParks programs;

WHEREAS: Dr. Shale sought to advance Mill Creek MetroParks by continuing his education as a Commissioner through numerous training programs through the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association and other organizations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Park Commissioners publicly proclaims its sincere appreciation to Dr. Shale for his outstanding service to, and heartfelt support of, Mill Creek MetroParks and the Mahoning Valley community. A suitable copy of this Resolution shall be prepared and presented to Dr. Shale, and an additional copy shall be placed in the permanent archives of Mill Creek MetroParks.

IN WITNESS THEREOF: The Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks hereunto set our hand on this 16th day of March, 2009.

Mr. Macejko seconded the motion and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Dailey, Macejko, Nunziato
Voting Nay: None

Following approval of the resolution, the Board presented Rick Shale with a copy of the resolution framed with a photo of the restored Suspension Bridge in Mill Creek Park and an original rivet from the bridge. The Commissioners and the staff noted the extraordinary amount of time which Dr. Shale has devoted to the MetroParks as a Commissioner, as a volunteer for many and varied projects, and as a program participant.

Tony Leone, Special Projects Director, presented Resolution R-09-04, Resolution of Authorization to participate in contracts of the Ohio Department of Transportation for the purchase of machinery, material, supplies, or other articles (e.g. Sodium Chloride) for approval.
Mr. Macejko moved the resolution be approved.

R-09-04
Resolution of Authorization

WHEREAS, Section 5513.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code provides the opportunity for Political Subdivisions to participate in contracts of the Ohio Department of Transportation for the purchase of machinery, material, supplies, or other articles, and

WHEREAS, the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District operates pursuant to Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY The Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District Board of Park Commissioners that the Executive Director is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for participation in a Contract for Sodium Chloride and will abide by all terms and conditions as required.

Mr. Nunziato seconded the motion and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Dailey, Macejko, Nunziato
Voting Nay: None

Staff Report - Dave Imbrogno

¥ Ms. Daily announced the retirement plans for Chief of MetroParks Police Nate Pinkard. Nate plans to retire on or about May 31, depending upon the progress of the search for a new MetroParks Police Chief.

¥ Mr. Imbrogno announced that this Friday, at 1:00 p.m., there will be a wind and solar power presentation at the MetroParks Farm, in cooperation with the Farm Bureau, and the Canfield Township Trustees.

¥ Mr. Imbrogno also announced that the MetroParks has been in touch with the Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative. A representative of that group has agreed to speak to the board about their work in inventorying abandoned and vacant property in Youngstown, including parcels adjacent to Mill Creek Park. The MetroParks is interested in what plans are developed for addressing this problem, especially along the borders of existing park property.

¥ Mr. Imbrogno also reported that the Cleveland Museum of Natural History has completed the management plan for the Mill Creek MetroParks Sanctuary. The plan will be presented to the staff next week and then shared with other staff, the board and interested community members. It is hoped that the plan will be a model and template for an overall MetroParks Natural Areas Management Plan, which will be developed with the Natural Areas Advisory Committee.

¥ Development Director, Linda Kostka reported that the Gift of Green collaboration with WYSU will continue for their spring membership drive. Executive Director, Dave Imbrogno, will appear on-air for two hours on April 1, talking about the MetroParks and offering members at the \$120 level, the opportunity to have a tree planted in the MetroParks Nature Preserves and to accompany the Director on a behind the scenes hike in one of our natural areas.

¥ Linda Kostka also reported that a NatureWorks Grant was submitted to develop a natural playground at the MetroParks Farm.

¥ Linda also noted that the north course of the MetroParks Golf Course opens tomorrow, April 2.

¥ She also reported that Scott Kayla has been selected as the new Assistant Golf Course Superintendent. We have also hired Lance Bailey as Golf Course Maintenance Coordinator. He began on March 23.

¥ Finally Nate Pinkard eloquently thanked the staff and Board for a rewarding 28 years with the MetroParks. He expressed his mixed feelings about leaving the MetroParks and pledged his assistance and support during the transition. The appreciation was returned by the Board, the Executive Director, and staff.

Ms. Dailey announced that the next Regular Board Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., at the MetroParks Farm, Classroom A.

The Board received the following public comments:

¥ Joe Schiavone, our new State Senator introduced himself, discussed his background, and offered to help the MetroParks in any way he can.

¥ Tom Bresko thanked Bill Adams for the Vindicator letter to the editor that prompted the creation of the Mindy Henning Scholarship Fund. Almost \$20,000 has been raised so far.

¥ Nancy Brundage attended the presentation of plans for the wetland restoration at the Sod Farm. She said that she enjoyed it and was impressed positively by what she heard.

At the end of the public comment session, the Board thanked everyone for their input.

There being no further business Mr. Nunziato moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dailey and passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.