The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at Fellows Riverside Gardens, President Lou Schiavoni welcomed guests and staff.

The meeting opened at 6 p.m. Roll Call was as follows: Germaine Bennett, present; Bob Durick, present; John Ragan, present; Lou Schiavoni, present; and Scott Schulick, present.

Lou Schiavoni presented the Minutes of the Meeting of September 14, 2015, and asked that they be approved. Germaine Bennett motioned they be approved. The motion was seconded by Scott Schulick and passed, and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:  Bennett, Durick, Ragan, Schiavoni, Schulick
Voting Nay:  None

Lou Schiavoni presented the Minutes of the Meeting of October 5, 2015, and asked that they be approved. John Ragan motioned they be approved. The motion was seconded by Scott Schulick and passed, and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:  Bennett, Ragan, Schiavoni, Schulick
Voting Nay:  None
Absent at October 5, 2015 meeting: Durick

Kevin Smith, Treasurer/Administrative Services Director, presented the Treasurer’s Report. Bob Durick moved, the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #68701–#68892 be approved. The motion was seconded by John Ragan and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:  Bennett, Durick, Ragan, Schiavoni, Schulick
Voting Nay:  None

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented a resolution from the Youngstown City Council in support of the upcoming MetroParks Levy.

Steve Avery, Planning & Natural Resources Director presented the following resolution for approval:

R-15-14

ODOT PARK DISTRICT ROAD IMPROVEMENT FUND, 2016-2017 BIENNium

WHEREAS, the Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), in accordance with ORC 5511.06, has approved a discretionary funding allocation for the ODOT Park District Road Improvement Fund for the 2016-2017 biennium, and

WHEREAS, under specific agreement with ODOT, the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) is serving as the management liaison for the ODOT Park District Road Improvement Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District (MCMPD) is eligible to receive the funds based on the following criteria: MCMPD was created according to Ohio Revised Code Section 1545; MCMPD owns and manages property in Mahoning County; and MCMPD has adequate resources to coordinate construction and maintenance of improvement projects, and
WHEREAS, a funding distribution formula approved by the Director of ODOT, which is based upon motor vehicle registrations within each county on a State biennium basis, has allocated $108,819.96 to the MCMPD for the 2016-2017 biennium, and

WHEREAS, the road improvement funds are specifically to be used for construction, reconstruction, improvement, repair or maintenance of park district drives, roads or parking lots in accordance with ORC 5511.06, and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hill Drive in Mill Creek Park needs to be improved and was identified as a priority project as provided to OPRA in March 2015.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District agree as follows:

1. The Executive Director of the MCMPD is hereby authorized and directed to file the necessary programming, scoping and environmental documents and to execute an Agreement for the project with ODOT, and
2. The Executive Director is hereby authorized and directed to have plans and specifications prepared for advertisement of public bids, and
3. The MCMPD agrees to pay all project costs in excess of the amount allocated by ODOT.

After discussion, Scott Schulick moved to accept the Resolution. Germaine Bennett seconded the motion and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Durick, Ragan, Schiavoni, Schulick
Voting Nay: None

Keith Kaiser, Horticulture Director requested that Glaciers Sport be authorized to hold their annual Night at the Races fundraiser at the Davis Center in Fellows Riverside Gardens on February 13, 2016.

Bob Durick moved the request be approved. The motion was seconded by John Ragan and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Durick, Ragan, Schiavoni, Schulick
Voting Nay: None

Commissioner’s comments:
- Bob Durick – spoke regarding a recent letter to the editor in the Vindicator in which it was mentioned that the MetroParks Board received payment for their position. Bob made it clear that Board members do not receive payment for being on the Board.
- Lou Schiavoni – Aaron and he met with Soil & Water, and the Health Department to determine pollution leaching points.
- Scott Schulick – asked that everyone vote for the Levy, as he did.
- Germaine Bennett – spoke about a recent Vindicator article about a young man receiving an injury after falling down an embankment in Yellow Creek Park. She was very pleased that the Health Department did an excellent job explaining how bacteria can be found anywhere.

Public Comments:
- Rick Shale, of Boardman – requested that the Board Meeting schedule be added to our print and electronic activities calendar.

At the end of the public comment session, the Board thanked the public for their comments.
There being no further business, John Ragan moved to adjourn the meeting. Germaine Bennett seconded the motion, and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:  Bennett, Durick, Ragan, Schiavoni, Schulick
Voting Nay:  None

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.