

Approved Minutes of the Wildlife Standing Committee to the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks held on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 in a joint meeting with Nature Education Standing Committee

A joint meeting between the Nature Education Standing Committee and the Wildlife Standing Committee meeting was held in Classroom A at the MetroParks Farm and was called to order at 6:33 PM.

Wildlife Committee members present: Dan Donoghue, Dennis Malloy, David Brown, Sean Logan and Justin Rogers (Ex officio). Member(s) excused: Suzi Bieber, David Deibel, Steve Morlan. Quorum established.

Sean Logan moved, Dave Brown second, approve minutes of May 25, 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Possible recommendation for wildlife policy:

Management (professional staff) should adopt park-specific, wildlife policies to properly balance ecological concerns, customer experience and management objectives. Management should confer as frequently as deemed necessary with the Wildlife Advisory Committee during the development phase of the park-specific policies. However, at a minimum, management should perform a detailed review with the Committee prior to recommending adoption by the Board of Directors.

Additional language to consider:

Where (geographically) appropriate, management should consider implementing the various principles of adaptive resource management. While not applicable to all system properties, there are likely various properties that could benefit from an adaptive management approach to ensure ecological integrity and sustainability.

No motion was made to accept. To be discussed along with wildlife/nuisance issues/concerns and management recommendations at future meeting(s).

New Business:

Introductions of Wildlife Committee members and Nature Education Committee members including Nick Visingardi, Jan Hubbard, Nancy Brundage, Laurel Gay, Lauren Schroeder, and Carol Vigorito (Ex officio).

One guest was present.

Wildlife Committee provided Nature Education Committee with an update on previous meetings, discussion topics and areas of focus for the committee including tours of MetroParks facilities, reporting, policies, education, goals, programs, etc.

Ideas were shared for programs such as wildlife tours and fishing programs; Human/wildlife conflict was discussed

The Nature Education committee is researching current MCMP programs, what user groups are underserved, potential new programs to encourage more participation (geocaching, camping) by families and specific age groups, and updating and evaluating curriculum-based programs

Guest shared ideas for getting kids involved, discussed nuisance trapping at the Sanctuary and beagle field trials at McGuffey.

Tentative future meetings:

Discuss what information to present to the Board regarding policy recommendations and wildlife/nuisance issues/concerns at a future meeting/work session.

Conduct a doodle poll for scheduling of next Wildlife Committee meeting.

There being no further business, Sean Logan moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Brown seconded the motion, and the vote taken resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Brown, Donoghue, Malloy, Logan

Voting Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:33PM.

Submitted by Justin Rogers