

Meeting Minutes

Mill Creek MetroParks Standing Committee on Development

Date: June 22, 2018

Prepared by: Maureen Rothrauff, *Secretary*

I. Call to Order (Richard Scarsella, Chairman)

- a. Welcome and introductions
- b. Members Present
 - Murray Davis, Chairman
 - Richard Scarsella, Committee Member
 - Pat McCamy, Committee Member
 - Maureen Rothrauff, Committee Member

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Previous meeting

III. Remarks from Committee Chairman (Richard Scarsella)

- a. "As the Development Committee, part of our job is to oversee and evaluate the park's fundraising efforts. I believe as a committee we have done a really good job. The park is definitely moving in the right direction and seems to be more profitable every year. There are also noticeable changes within the park that are there because of fundraising dollars. I am very grateful and impressed with Chris Litton's performance. I am confident that as a committee, we can work with Chris to help keep the park on this positive path to growth and development."

IV. Election of Committee Secretary

- a. Election of Maureen Rothrauff as Secretary
Maureen Rothrauff was nominated and unanimously elected as Secretary for the Mill Creek MetroParks Standing Committee on Development for 2018.

V. MetroParks Development Director Report (Chris Litton)

- a. Development Plan
In July, the MetroParks Board of Commissioners authorized the Development Director and the Executive Director to produce a development plan of action for 2018. Director Litton offered insight into the preliminary draft of the 2018 Development Plan:

Endowment Drive:

Development Director Litton said that a fundraising drive has already raised over \$1 million.

Capital Campaign

Development Director, Chris Litton offered an overview of the MetroParks capital campaign to benefit the Ford Nature Center. \$3 million will be needed for the renovation. The MetroParks have been working with an architect and plans to break ground sometime next spring. There have already been several pledges for this project.

Memorials & Tributes

Development Director Litton observed that the sales of benches and bird houses have fallen behind. The MetroParks recently sold \$11,000 in these types of memorials, which is considerable less than the \$80,000 that was sold last year. It

may be necessary for the MetroParks to find a new and different way to promote the sales of these items to the public.

VI. New Business

a. Committee Goals

The MetroParks Board of Commissioners has asked each Standing Committee to suggest between 1-3 goals for the committee by the December board meeting (December 19, 2018).

b. Questions

Murray Davis inquired about the trolley. Development Director Litton said, "Very Well," and explained that it continues to run well and be a popular attraction for the MetroParks. In fact, some trolley tours have waiting lists of people who want to participate in the tours.

c. Next Meeting

September 14, 2018 time and location still to be determined based on facility availability

VII. Adjournment