

Canfield Ohio
November 19, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Monday, November 19, 2018, at the MetroParks Farm. President Lee Frey welcomed guests and staff.

The meeting opened at 6 p.m. with recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was as follows: Germaine Bennett, present, Lee Frey, present; Tom Frost, present; Jeff Harvey, present, and Paul Olivier, present.

Officer Peter Katsaras, and Detective Sergeant Rob Vukovich were acknowledged and thanked for locating a missing 3-year-old during the recent Pumpkin Walk at the Gardens. Andrew Pratt, Gardens Director, and Jim Willock Chief of Police spoke about the incident. The Board thanked them.

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Meeting of October 9, 2018. Commissioner Frey moved that the minutes be accepted into the records.

Kevin Smith, Director of Finance, presented the Treasurer's Report. Lee Frey moved, the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #77528 - #77833 for a total of \$1,218,849.66 be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Kevin made a request to increase appropriations to account 100-1100-5056 – Golf Course Operations – Professional Services by \$2,875.00. The MetroParks has received a Golf & Travel Show Grant from the Mahoning County Visitors & Convention Bureau to attend the 2019 Toronto & Michigan Golf Shows. Lee Frey moved that the appropriation request be approved. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Lee Frey congratulated the Finance Department on another clean financial audit.

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented the closing documents for the Clingan Road property.

Megan Millich, HR Director, presented the Bloodborne Pathogens Policy for approval. Lee Frey moved that the policy be approved. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Megan also presented the 2018 Healthcare Benefits Cost Summary, and the 2019 Renewal figures, which show a 4.99% reduction in premiums. Lee Frey moved that the plan be accepted. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost. The Board thanked Megan for her hard work in getting a reduction in the premiums. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Carol Vigorito, Recreation & Education Director, presented a Special Event Request for the Struthers Rotary to hold a Community Youth Event at Yellow Creek Park, on Saturday, June 8, 2019. Lee Frey

moved that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Andrew Pratt, Gardens Director, presented a Special Event Request for The Glaciers to hold their annual Night at the Races fundraiser event at the Davis Center on February 9, 2019. Lee Frey moved that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Aaron Young presented the tentative 2019 Board Meeting Schedule for approval. Lee Frey moved that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Jim Willock, Chief of Police, presented the Interlocal Agreement Between the Board of Mahoning County Commissioners and the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District, Motorola/Spillman Public Safety System for approval. Lee Frey moved that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett. After a brief review of the system, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

Executive Director's Report (Aaron Young, Executive Director)

1. 2018 Ohio Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. The MetroParks participated in the development of this plan.
 - a. http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/Portals/parks/PDFs/stay_informed/SCORP/2018_SCORP_Appendices.pdf
2. ODNR NatureWorks Funding Conditional Award for MetroParks Farm Disc Golf Course in the amount of \$16,056. Justin Rogers Planning Manager submitted the grant. Justin summarized the plan, and indicated that it would be completed in 2019.
3. 2018 OPRA Awards of Excellence, Category 1: Capital Improvement Projects Up to \$1.0 Million: 3rd Place Wick Recreation Area Dek Hockey Rink
4. Congratulations to Brian Tolnar and Andy Santor for being named Merchandiser of the Year and Teacher of the Year by the Northern Ohio PGA Section.
5. The Donald Ross Society presented the MetroParks with a \$7,000 donation for the Mill Creek Park Golf Course.

Chris Litton, Development Director, gave an update on fundraising, the DEK Hockey Rink, the Ford Nature Center capital campaign, the Donald Ross Society. He also presented, for approval, a naming and recognition agreement for the Ford Nature Center Education Building. The MetroParks will acknowledge a gift by naming the Education Building as the "Florence Simon Beecher Foundation and John D. Finnegan Foundation Education Building. For purposes of exterior signage the building shall be referred to as "Beecher- Finnegan Education Building". Lee Frey moved that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost Harvey, Olivier

Voting Nay: None

Nick Derico, Natural Resources Steward presented, for the Environment Standing Committee, their recommendation to add an aeration system at the Lily Pond. They feel this aeration system will greatly benefit the Pond. Benefits and financial concerns were discussed. Nick will forward the information to Aaron, to look at as part of the whole 2019 budget.

Nick, on behalf of the Environment Committee, presented their 2019 goals, which will be added to the Standing Committee section of the website. Nancy Brundage asked what happened to the talk several years ago, by a different set of commissioners, regarding solar and wind power at the MetroParks Farm.

Commissioners Comments

- Jeff Harvey – Mentioned the Big Sit event at the Wildlife Sanctuary, indicated that we're #1 in Ohio. He also thanked the staff for the picnic table and port-a-john
- Paul Olivier – Thanked the Environment Committee for their goals
- Germaine Bennett – Attended the National Philanthropy Day banquet on behalf of the MetroParks
- Tom Frost – happy about the positive news tonight, and thanked everyone
- Lee Frey – Happy Thanksgiving. Thanked the directors for their work. Asked that the Standing Committees be reminded to turn in their Annual Report, and Goals.

Public Comments to the Board

- Eric Clark questioned how the Air Rifle Safety Class held at the MetroParks Farm recently benefited the MetroParks. Jim Willock explained that it was an ODNR grant and teaches gun safety, proper handling, and marksmanship. Nancy Brundage asked if any females attended the class.
- Frank Nolasco handed out a report, with photos, to the Board regarding water, ice, ditch, and pavement issues at the overflow lot at the Golf Course, and the footbridge area.

Lee Frey announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 17, 2018, at 6 p.m. in the Davis Center at Fellows Riverside Gardens. Prior to the meeting, at 5:30 p.m., the Records Retention Committee will meet.

There being no further business, Lee Frey moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Harvey seconded the motion, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay: None

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.