

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF MILL CREEK  
METROPARKS HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Thursday, June 6, 2019, at Yellow Creek Lodge. 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.

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Meeting of May 13, 2019. Commissioner Frey accepted the minutes into the records as written.

Kevin Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer presented the Department Report for Finance. Lee Frey moved, the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #79208 - #79448 for a total of \$1,060,291.12 be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Kevin Smith requested to increase appropriations to account 100-0440-5056 Development Department-Professional Services by \$3,804.01. We received donations through the MetroParks PayPal account and would like to transfer them to the Mill Creek MetroParks Foundation. Lee Frey moved that the appropriation request be approved. Tom Frost 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

Kevin presented the following Resolution for approval:

**R-19-05**

**AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO CREATE AND UTILIZE AN UNCLAIMED FUNDS TRUST FUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 9.39 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE**

**WHEREAS**, Mill Creek MetroParks desires to authorize the Finance Director to create and utilize an Unclaimed Funds Trust fund to be used for the deposit and maintenance of the public money received or collected by the MetroParks and not otherwise paid out according to law or claimed by its lawful owner; and

**WHEREAS**, Ohio Revised Code section 9.39 authorizes the creation of such an Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District, Mahoning County, Ohio:

1. That the Finance Director is authorized to create and utilize the Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund in accordance with the provisions of Section 9.39 of the Ohio Revised Code.
2. That the specific deposit which is placed in said Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund and which is not properly claimed by the lawful owner within a period of five (5) years shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Mill Creek MetroParks for the sole benefit of and use by the Park District.

3. That any interest earnings on any monies deposited in such Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund belongs solely to Mill Creek MetroParks and may be transferred to the General Fund of the Park District whenever deemed appropriate by the Finance Director.
4. This Resolution shall take affect and be in full force at the earliest time allowed by law.

Lee Frey moved that the resolution be approved. Jeff Harvey seconded the motion, after some discussion, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Justin Rogers, Planning Manager presented the following Resolution for approval:

**R-19-06**

**Resolution Authorizing MetroParks Executive Director to Apply for  
ODNR NatureWorks Grant Program Funds**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes, through the State of Ohio NatureWorks Grant Program and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District, operating under Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code, intends to apply to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for NatureWorks Grant Program funds.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the MetroParks Executive Director is hereby authorized to apply, on behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners, to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for NatureWorks Grant Program funds, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the MetroParks Executive Director is further authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate, as well as to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for obtaining this financial assistance, and

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District agrees to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms of the NatureWorks Grant Program.

Lee Frey moved that the resolution be approved. Jeff Harvey seconded the motion, after discussion, 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, Executive Director recognized several MetroParks Police Officers and their Supervisor for their actions to rescue a young man's assistance dog, who had fallen in the creek.

Aaron Young, Executive Director, gave an update on the Equestrian Facilities Lease. Lee Frey moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute a MOU with the Buckeye Horse Park Association to formalize the ending of the original lease. Germaine Bennett seconded the motion. After extensive discussion, 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 moved that the Executive Director continue lease negotiations with the Buckeye Horse Park Association. Germaine Bennett seconded the motion. After extensive discussion, and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett  
Voting Nay: Frey, Frost, Harvey Olivier

Chris Litton, Development Director gave an update on fundraising.

#### Commissioners Comments

- Jeff Harvey – announced that the MetroParks won an award from the National Association of Interpretation, for our Trolley programs.
- Paul Olivier – commended the staff on the condition of the Park, despite flooding issues.
- Germaine Bennett – thanked the Gardens staff for the great condition of the gardens, despite the wet weather.
- Tom Frost – thanked the Maintenance staff for quickly fixing the parking lot at the Mahoning Avenue Bikeway entrance. He congratulated the officers involved in the dog rescue.
- Lee Frey – thanked the staff for the hard work during this summer. Congratulated Mandy Walker, Office Manager on her retirement.

#### Public Comments to the Board

- none

Lee Frey announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8, 2019, at 6 p.m., at the MetroParks Farm.

There being no further business, Lee Frey moved to adjourn the meeting. Germaine Bennett 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 6:53 p.m.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary