

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF MILL CREEK
METROPARKS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Monday, March 8, 2021. The Meeting was video recorded and broadcasted live via Facebook Live Video.

The meeting opened at 6:00 p.m., with recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Lee Frey welcomed staff and guests watching remotely.

Roll Call was as follows:

Germaine Bennett;	Present
Lee Frey;	Present
Tom Frost,	Present via Zoom
Jeff Harvey;	Present
Paul Olivier;	Present

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Meeting of February 8, 2021. Commissioner Frey accepted the minutes into the records as written.

Kevin Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer presented the Department Report for Finance and requested that disbursements #83850 - #84044 for a total of \$1,225,897.30 be approved. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #83850 - #84044 for a total of \$1,225,897.30 be approved. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey after discussion, 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 presented the 2020 Annual Report. The 2020 Annual Report is available on the MetroParks website for all to view. Aaron thanked the staff for their respective roles in the preparation of the report.

Aaron Young, Executive Director provided a copy of the preliminary Board presentation schedule for the Department Directors. The first presentation will be at this meeting by the Jaime Yohman, Community Engagement Director.

Aaron Young, Executive Director provided an update on the current planning efforts of the administration in preparation for allowing facility rentals, programs and events once the closures related to the COVID-19 Pandemic are lifted. Plans are dependent upon and in response to current orders of the Governor. Currently closures are in effect until April 12, 2021. Administration will need approximately 30-45 days to onboard the necessary part time and seasonal staff to accommodate the reopening. There are currently 13 facility rentals already scheduled between April 13, 2021 and May 1, 2021.

Aaron Young, Executive Director acknowledged and commended the Police Department on their attainment of Group 3 and Group 4 certification from the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Agency. Group 3 is related to Bias Free Policing & Investigation of Employee Misconduct and Group 4 related to Vehicular Pursuits.

Megan Millich, Human Resources Director presented and requested approval of the 2021 Employee Manual Updates. A summary of the changes was provided to the Board for their review. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Human Resources Director, that the 2021 Employee Manual Updates be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Chris Litton, Development Director presented and requested approval of the Naming Rights Agreement for the MetroParks Preserve. A copy of the agreement was provided for the Board to review. The agreement formally renames the MetroParks Preserve as the Collier Preserve and new signage will be installed to acknowledge the change. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Development Director, that the Naming Rights Agreement for the MetroParks Preserve be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Brian Tolnar, Golf & Recreation Director presented and requested approval of the 2021 Golf Course Restaurant Lease. A copy of the lease was provided for the Board to review. The lease is a one year continuation of the previous lease with Valley Grille, LLC. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Golf & Recreation Director, that the 2021 Golf Course Restaurant Lease be approved. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Lee Frey, Board President opened the floor for the discussion of the review of the Board By-laws. Germaine identified the need for term limits for the positions of the Board. Lee moved to amend the Board By-Laws as noted:

Section 1 - Board of Park Commissioners: c:

From: The officers of this Board shall consist of a President and Vice-President who shall be elected for a period of one year at its first meeting; thereafter, they will be elected by the Board annually at the second meeting of the calendar year, each to serve until a successor is elected.

To: The officers of this Board shall consist of a President and Vice-President who shall be elected for a period of one year at its first meeting; thereafter, they will be elected by the Board annually at the second meeting of the calendar year, each to serve until a successor is elected. The President and Vice-President shall serve no more than three consecutive one-year terms beginning in 2022. There shall be no further limit on one-year terms so long as they are not consecutive.

The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion and further amendment, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Justin Rogers, Planning & Operations Director presented and requested approval of Resolution R-21-02; Requesting Funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Designation of Projects for Ohio Parks Districts Roadwork Fund FY 2022-2023 through the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association (OPRA). Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Planning & Operations Director, that Resolution R-21-02; Requesting Funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Designation of Projects for Ohio Parks Districts Roadwork Fund FY 2022-2023 through the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association (OPRA) be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District

R-21-02

Resolution to Request Funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Designation of Projects for Ohio Parks Districts Roadwork Fund FY 2022-2023 through the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association (OPRA)

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners (the Board) of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District has need for improvement of public park roadways owned and maintained by the Park District in Mahoning County; and

WHEREAS, the Park District was created according to Ohio Revised Code 1545, owns or holds at a minimum a 15-year lease of eligible parkland for roadwork funding, and has adequate, available resources for the construction and maintenance of requested park road improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Park Districts Roadwork Fund is provided by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for such purposes as authorized by Ohio Revised Code 5511.06, is subject to the Park District Guidance To ODOT's Metropark Program as prescribed by ODOT, and is coordinated by the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association (OPRA); and

WHEREAS, the Board is cognizant of the requirements for receiving such funds, and agrees to comply with the OPRA Policy, as clarified at the Meeting on December 7, 2010, that the park districts are prohibited from accumulating more than 3 Bienniums (six years) of UNUSED funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District requests the designated allocation from the Ohio Parks Districts Roadwork Fund along with any remaining balance of funds in accordance with the following stipulations:

1. Funds can be used for materials and labor necessary for construction or reconstruction of park drives, park roads, new or replacement bridges, park access roads and parking lots. The funds also may be used for the purchase and hauling of materials for the improvement, repair and maintenance of park drives, park roads, park access roads, and parking lots, and rental of labor and equipment. Force account labor costs (charges by park district employees or associates) are ineligible. Ineligible costs include bikeways and items such as shelter houses, wells, pumps, restrooms facilities, park buildings, etc. All projects must be associated with public vehicular access to be eligible for funding. Funds may be used for eligible construction costs, including construction engineering (i.e., testing and inspection) of "LET" projects.
2. The Park District will pay all costs incurred over the appropriated allocation and, also, for all costs associated with design, environmental studies and documents, and right-of-way activities. Any deviation from the guidelines regarding environmental studies or roadway design requires the written approval of ODOT.
3. Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District has designated the Executive Director as the contact person for the local arrangements and to sign all documentation on behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners.

This Resolution passed this 8th day of March 2021.

Board of Park Commissioners


Lee Frey, President


Germaine Bennett, Vice-President

Tom Frost, Commissioner

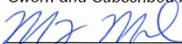

Jeff Harvey, Commissioner


Paul Olivier, Commissioner



MEGAN MILLICH
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF OHIO
Comm. Expires
04-02-2025

Sworn and Subscribed before me this 9th day of March, 2021.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires April 2ND, 2025.

Jaime Yohman, Community Engagement Director provided a presentation to the Board on the duties of the Community Engagement Department. A copy of the presentation will be available on the MetroParks website. The Community Engagement includes all marketing, public relations, graphics and education efforts on behalf of Mill Creek MetroParks. Jaime elaborated on the plans for education once the renovations to the Ford Nature Center are completed. Further discussion on the STEM and STEAM Programs that are planned for the education department.

Chris Litton, Development Director presented the MetroParks Foundation deposit report for the period of February 1-25, 2021 at a total of \$126,695. This includes a contribution from the Donald Ross Society, The Youngstown Foundation as well as the Youngstown Clothing Company.

Commissioners Comments:

- Germaine Bennett – Great job on the reports.
- Lee Frey – Decision to reopen is linked to a recommendation from the Administration. Concerns abound related to the progress of the vaccine implementation. Thanked Jaime for her presentation.

- Tom Frost – Thanks for the Zoom capabilities. Tom commended the police department on their work on the collaborative. Great job to Jaime on the presentation.
- Jeff Harvey – Hopes to reopen and is excited to welcome people back to normal.
- Paul Olivier – Paul asked if the annual report gets sent to our donors. Paul thanked Officer Hunter for the assistance regarding a wounded deer in his back yard.

Public Comments to the Board:

- None

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 2021, at 6 p.m., at the MetroParks Farm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Presiding Officer

Secretary