

Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Natural Resources Citizen Advisory Committee
Thursday May 6th, 2021 | 2:30 PM
Outdoor Meeting at Stitt Pavilion
Prepared by Nick Derico, *Natural Resources Steward*



Committee Members in Attendance

Nick Derico ☒ | Joshua Noble ☒ | Elizabeth Martin ☒ | Sean Baran ☒ | Peter Milliken ☒ | Sara Scudier ☐ | John Zimmerman ☐ | Ronald Kichton ☒ | Robert Campbell ☐ | Joshua Emanuelson ☒ |

Public Attendees



I. Call to Order – 2:33 PM

Old Business

- **Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes**
Nick Derico provided the meeting minutes from the last meeting (10.01.20), members reviewed the minutes and offered no revisions or corrections. Elizabeth Martin motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Josh Noble.
- **Roll Call**
Voting Aye – Derico, Noble, Martin, Baran, Kichton, Emanuelson, Milliken
Voting Nay - None

II. **New Business**

Review of Committee Charge and Approval of 2021 Committee Goals

Derico presented a copy of the 2020 goals (approved 10.01.20) along with the committee charge for review and approval.

The goals were presented as follows:

- **Goal #1**
Continued Research and Exploration of Renewable Energy and Recycling Opportunities
- **Goal #2**
Aide MCMP Staff in the Development of Facility Based Natural Resources Management Plans
- **Goal #3**
Aide MCMP Staff in the Assessment of Current and Future Natural Resources Related Projects

Committee Charge

“To inform and advise the Board on the current trends and best management practices in the fields of natural resource and wildlife management in an effort to promote and enhance environmental sustainability and ecological biodiversity within the MetroParks.”

The group offered no revisions or corrections and voted to keep the committee goals unchanged for 2021.

Derico motioned to approve the goals as presented, Emanuelson seconded.

- **Roll Call**
Voting Aye – Derico, Noble, Martin, Baran, Kichton, Emanuelson, Milliken
Voting Nay - None

Natural Resources Project Review

Derico presented to the group, a list of Natural Resources related projects for 2021 – the discussion included the following topics:

Goose Management

1. Review of Goose Harassment and Egg Addling/Nest Monitoring.
2. ODNR Nest Destruction Permit Awarded in Mid-March
3. USDA Currently Carrying Out Egg Addling in MCP, Monitoring at Sanctuary.

MCP Deer Survey

1. Results of the March 8, 2021 deer survey completed in MCP.
2. The group discussed the results in comparison to any past data and discussed the plan for future survey efforts.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

1. Current distribution of HWA in MCP/YCP, current survey progress, treatment options, and the status of the TNC Hemlock Protection Grant.

Sanctuary Meso-Predator Management

1. Review of Spring 2021 Meso-Predator Management at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary.
2. Spring Trail Camera Survey Completed in 2021 to assess current raccoon populations levels.
3. Removal efforts to be carried out by USDA Wildlife Services in June 2021.

Clean Ohio Round 14/15 Grant Application

1. Sanctuary Expansion 218-Acres – Will Combine with MCWS to Make a 482-Acre Facility, MCMP to take possession of property in the spring of 2021.
2. Springfield Road Preserve 89-Acres – to be the first MCMP facility located in Springfield Twp.

Tree Plantings – Collier Preserve

1. 600 Trees Planted Courtesy of FirstEnergy for Earth Day 2021
2. Additional Effort to Take Place in the Fall of 2021 with the YSU Legacy Forest Committee

Fish Stockings

1. Review of Spring 2021 Fish Stocking of Lake Glacier, Yellow Creek Park, MetroParks Farm, and Vickers Nature Preserve.

Trail Expansion

2. Collier Preserve – Approximately 1.42 miles of New Trail Construction Planned for 2021 on the Northern Parcel of the Preserve.
3. McGuffey Wildlife Preserve – Approximately 1.27 Miles of New Trail Construction Planned for 2021.

Natural Resources Management Plans

- **Collier Preserve**
 1. Draft Completed in December 2019, Second Draft in Progress
- **MetroParks Farm**
 1. First Draft Completed

Emanuelson described the agricultural assessment he conducted alongside Mahoning County Soil and Water to be included in the MetroParks Farm NRMP.

Derico will continue to send out drafts of each management plan for review by the Committee as they are completed.

Open Discussion/Brainstorming

Noble introduced the topic of Lake Newport, the conversation included ideas such as fishing success, fish stocking, pollution sources, and algae treatments.

Milliken introduced the topic of renewable energy, specifically the addition of electric vehicle charging stations at prominent MetroParks facilities.

Baran introduced several topics including trail connectivity from Slippery Rock Pavilion to FNC, reclaimed trail access to FNC, and the potential revitalization of the Edith Kaufman Quarry Garden.

The group discussed future dredging/redevelopment plans for Mirror Pond, this project is in its early planning stages and will take likely place in late 2021/early 2022.

Public Comments

III. None

Committee Questions/Comments

IV. None

Date of Next Meeting

V. TBD – The group agreed to meet on a more frequent basis (monthly) throughout the spring/summer. Derico will coordinate the date of the next meeting via email.

VI. Adjournment – 4:07 PM
