

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF MILL CREEK
METROPARKS HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Monday, December 13, 2021.

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

Lee Frey, Board President welcomed staff and guests.

Roll Call was as follows:

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

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2021. Lee Frey accepted the minutes into the record as written.

Kevin Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer presented the Department Report for Finance and requested that disbursements #85801 - #86078 for a total of \$1,517,678.78 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 #85801 - #86078 for a total of \$1,517,678.78 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:	Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay:	None

Kevin Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer requested to decrease appropriations to fund 701 – Replacement Reserve Fund by \$3,900,000.00. This year end fund adjustment is needed to ensure that appropriations do not exceed the estimated resources and amount available to spend in the fund at the end of the year. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, to decrease appropriations to fund 701 – Replacement Reserve Fund by \$3,900,000.00. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Kevin Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer requested to decrease appropriations to fund 809 – Ford Nature Center Redevelopment Fund by \$12,012.59. This year end fund adjustment is needed to ensure that appropriations do not exceed the estimated resources and amount available to spend in the fund at the end of the year. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, to decrease appropriations to fund 809 – Ford Nature Center Redevelopment Fund by \$12,012.59. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Kevin Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer requested approval of the 2022 Temporary Budget in the total amount of \$1,380,000. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, to approve the 2022 Temporary Budget in the total amount of \$1,380,000. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Aaron Young, Executive Director provided an update on the internal efforts to increase awareness of the Stay on the Trail rules for areas of critical habitats. Edits are being made to special use permits, internal and notices are being created for distribution via social media and at information kiosks. On-site signage will be added if problems persist.

Aaron Young, Executive Director identified that once again, thanks to a successful Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Grant Application, the MetroParks has expanded its land holdings by acquiring 218 acres of land bordering the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary. The Clean Ohio Conservation Fund provided 75% or \$457,500 of the \$610,000 total project cost, with the remaining 25% or \$152,500 being provided by the Mill Creek MetroParks Foundation. The Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary is now comprised of a total of 482-acres.

Mark Wenick, President of the Mill Creek MetroParks Foundation provided the Board with the 2021 Annual Report as required by the Seventh Amended and Restated Trust Agreement. Mark thanked Commissioner Olivier for his service and also thanked Jeff for his work in serving after Mark's departure. Total assets within the Foundation as of October 31, 2021 are \$5,279,156.52. Mark thanked both Chris and Aaron for their work to date in support of the Foundation. The Volney Rogers Legacy Awards were also distributed in 2021 Mark noted how impressive the 3D printed award was. The Foundation also completed a full audit for 2020. Lee thanked Mark for his commitment to the MetroParks.

Aaron Young, Executive Director identified that the dates for 2022 Board Meetings are noted on the current meeting agenda and remain as the second Monday of the month at 6 pm. Any changes to the meeting dates can be done on an as needed basis.

Nick Morchak, Staff Accountant presented the 2021 Fuel Bids. 21st Century (Reed Oil Company) was the sole bidder and is recommended for award. Aaron Young, Executive Director identified that two motions would be needed for each of the Fuel Bids as well as the Chemical and Fertilizer Bids to follow. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Executive Director, to award 21st Century (Reed Oil Company) the bid for 2021 Fuel. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Nick Morchak, Staff Accountant presented the 2021 Chemical and Fertilizer Bids. Six vendors submitted bids and it was recommended that the lowest and best bids from all six vendors be accepted. Aaron Young, Executive Director reminded the Board that this is the same method that was utilized in 2020 to much success. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Executive Director, to accept the lowest and best bids from all six vendors for the 2021 Chemical and Fertilizer Bids. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Nick Derico, Natural Resource Steward provided an update on the invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and the MetroParks' collaboration with The Nature Conservancy in treating Hemlocks within Mill Creek MetroParks in an effort to protect the Hemlocks from further infestation/predation. 165 trees were treated in total before hitting treatment thresholds of insecticide per acre. Survey and treatment will continue in 2022 as part of a phased approach. These treatments will be good for up to seven years after initial treatment.

Chris Litton, Development Director shared the MetroParks Foundation deposit report for the period of November 1-30, 2021 at a total of \$312,773.38. Lee Frey moved to accept the deposit report for the

period of November 1-30, 2021 as presented. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Commissioners Comments:

- Commissioners as a group thanked everyone for their work and wished all a Happy Holiday.

Public Comments to the Board:

- None

Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Executive Director, to go into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, discipline or compensation of public employees in relation to collective bargaining matters. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Lee Frey moved to exit Executive Session and to return to Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Executive Director, to approve the 2022-2024 AFSCME Union Agreement. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6 p.m., at McMahon Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:44 p.m.

Presiding Officer

Secretary