

METROPARKS OF BUTLER COUNTY
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 17, 2022

The MetroParks of Butler County Board of Park Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 17, 2022, at Ronald Reagan Lodge at Voice of America MetroPark, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester Township, OH 45069-2938.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Ms. Trokhan.

I. - Roll Call and Agenda

Members present:

Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach, Mr. Nelson arrived at 8:55 am.

Staff present:

Susan Bolser, Jaime Kimbrough, Matt Latham, Jackie O'Connell, Amy Pellman, Chad Smith, David VanArsdale, Katie Ely-Wood

II. - Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items

None

III. - Approval of Minutes

Approval of the January 27, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes.

Mr. Gersbach moved to approve; Ms. Trokhan seconded.

Motion Passed. Vote: Aye: Mr. Gersbach, Ms. Trokhan

IV. - Consent Agenda

- a. Donations Report

Mr. Gersbach moved to approve Item a; Ms. Trokhan seconded.

Motion Passed. Vote: Aye: Mr. Gersbach, Ms. Trokhan

V. - Special Presentations

None

VI. - Finance

- a. Schedule of Payables

Mr. Gersbach moved for approval. Ms. Trokhan seconded.

Motion passed. Vote: Aye: Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach

Resolution No. 07.22

VII. – Administrative Reports

Ms. Kimbrough gave an update on the current open positions.

Mr. Smith stated that we received no responses to the Lodge's RFP. MetroParks will modify the current model of lodge management.

Mr. Latham noted project milestones: the bridge on GMRT extension at Timberhill has recently been installed and staff met with the engineer at Governor Bebb to scout location of proposed Dry Fork Creek bridge. Ms. Trokhan asked for pictures of the bigger projects while under construction; Mr. Latham will have pictures with his bi-monthly updates.

Ms. O'Connell updated on the strategic initiatives and budget meetings. There was an all-staff survey completed to help guide in these decisions.

Ms. O'Connell and Ms. Ely-West recently had a preliminary discussion with a group looking for a concert venue. Mr. Smith commented that the Taps, Tunes and Tastes event will return over the 4th of July weekend at the VOA Museum.

VIII. Old Business - None

IX. New Business

a. Adoption of Indian Creek MetroPark Vision Plan

Mr. Latham stated public comments indicated the community wants to keep the area as passive recreation, highlight overlooks, add/improve trails, install a bridge over Dry Fork Creek, better (flush) restrooms. There is also interest in highlighting the historical importance of the area.

Input also indicated that the public would like accessible trails. Another suggestion was to put in a pathway to connect to the town of Reily. Ms. Trokhan asked if we felt the Reily area was adequately polled. Mr. Smith stated that the public input meetings were held at the Reily Community Center and that there was good representation from locals in the area.

Board member, Mr. Gersbach, asked about invasive removal in the natural areas. Mr. Smith stated that invasive remediation will occur during improvements to the areas.

Board member, Ms. Trokhan, asked how many parks still need a vision plan. Mr. Latham stated that we still need to create plans for Four Mile Creek MetroPark (Mill Race Preserve - open, Davidson Woods-closed, Sycamore Bluffs- open, Antenen Preserve- open) & Gilmore MetroPark.

Mr. Gersbach moved for approval. Mr. Nelson seconded.

Motion passed. Vote: Aye: Mr. Nelson, Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach

b. Elk Creek Clubhouse Future Options

Mr. Latham reviewed the proposed options. The current condition of the clubhouse is very poor due to deferred maintenance prior to MetroParks obtaining the property and the recommendation was to demolish the current facility. Ms. Trokhan suggested that we have a strong communication/education plan before we do anything to the clubhouse. Ms. O'Connell stated we would put a plan in place before proceeding with demolition.

Mr. Nelson moved for approval. Mr. Gersbach seconded.

Motion passed. Vote Aye: Mr. Nelson, Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach

c. Review of Rules & Regulations Revisions

Ms. O’Connell stated that this is a first reading, as MetroParks will have to publicize the updated Rules and Regulations to the public before they can be adopted.

Mr. Nelson moved for approval. Mr. Gersbach seconded.
Motion passed. Vote: Aye: Mr. Nelson, Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach

d. Resolution to Pay Late Fees, Finance Charges and/or Penalties

Mr. Nelson moved for approval. Mr. Gersbach seconded.
Motion passed. Vote: Aye: Mr. Nelson, Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach
Resolution No. 08.22

X. Commissioner Reports - None

XI. Executive Session

Mr. Nelson moved for a roll call vote to enter Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Gersbach.

Vote: Aye: Mr. Nelson, Ms. Trokhan, Mr. Gersbach. The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:16 a.m. The Board returned to Regular Session at 9:49 a.m.

XII. – Adjournment

Mr. Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m. Mr. Gersbach seconded.
Motion passed.

Adoption: The above minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting as adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners, MetroParks of Butler County.

Approved:

Attest:

Cynamon Trokhan,
Presiding Officer of the Board

Jacqueline O’Connell,
Executive Director/Secretary

Date