

ASHTABULA COUNTY METROPARKS
25 West Jefferson Street, Jefferson, OH 44047

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday August 10th, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Ashtabula County Metroparks Board of Commissioners was held at the Board Office meeting room at 91 N. Chestnut Street in Jefferson, Ohio and called to order at 6:30pm by Paul Carpenter. Board Members in attendance and completing a quorum were: Paul Carpenter, President; Bob Best, Vice President; Terry Berkey, Member; Marie Lane, Member; Charlie Kohli, Member; Larry Frimerman, Executive Director. Pam Blough, Clerk. The July Regular and August Special Minutes and Current Monthly Expense Worksheet were reviewed. June and July financials were reviewed. Motion to approve Minutes by Lane, Second by Kohli. Motion to approve bills/expenses by Best, seconded by Kohli. Motion to accept financials, Kohli; second by Lane. All motions were passed by unanimous vote of aye. Also in attendance: Brett Rodstrom, WRLC; Scott Burgett, Chuck Riley and Linn Peskoran; members of the public. Gary Hines, People for Parks.

Meet the New Executive Director: Mr. Carpenter introduced Mr. Larry Frimerman, the new Executive Director of the Ashtabula Metroparks. Mr. Frimerman will officially start on August 29th. Mr. Frimerman expressed his delight to be a member of the Metroparks and thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to help the parks grow and prosper.

Presentation: Lynn Peskoran: Collaboration with the Metroparks and Stockade Acres LLC in Jefferson Township; with regard to the Greenway Trail and Lampson Reservoir Metropark. She would like to repurpose the now closed 88 acre Jefferson Township campground that has been in her family and is sitting idle. Cabin Rentals? Possible link to the Greenway access through an old right of way? Educational classes held by Metroparks? Horseback riding/stables? Many possibilities. The Board agrees that something is possible and the Board would be interested in hearing more. Lynn stated that she also has six acres in Williamsfield near the Pymatuning Greenway that may have some future use for horses using the Trail, boarding, cooling station? Mr. Carpenter will stay in contact with Lynn.

Audience Participation is limited to three minutes each and the Board thanks them for their input.

Scott Burgett presented the Board with two 24" x 36" photos taken by him; he thought the Board may want to borrow them to hang on the office walls until contest or other photos would become available. The Board accepted the loan and thanked Mr. Burgett.

Mr. Burgett expressed his concern about the stream bank restoration at Harpersfield. The Board advised him that a grant had been awarded and that there is a study underway. "It is a process" Mr. Kohli explained.

Gary Hines from People for Parks noted that tickets are now on sale for the annual Megabucks-on-the-Trail Event to be held on September 10th at the Lampson Trailhead. BBQ dinner, Music, Chinese auction, etc. Proceeds benefit the People for Parks levy fund.

Old Business:

1. Mr. Berkey motioned to establish a .45 per mile reimbursement policy for Board Members and employees of the Metroparks; pending actual organization of the policy and procedures manual regarding reimbursement. Second by Mr. Best. Motion passed by unanimous vote of members present.
2. Mr. Berkey has elected to keep the John Deere tractor for now; per motion proposes the Board buy a used wood chipper from Saybrook Township for \$5250. Discussion of safety and need ensued. Motion had no second, therefore tabled.
3. Mr. Kohli gave an update on the North Shore Trail Project. Survey/split of the Goodwill property has been completed and approved; appraisals still pending for the City of Ashtabula properties; meeting is pending of all parties involved with easements and the Marina. Objective is to have this phase completed by December 2016.
4. Mr. Kohli noted that he will advise the Board on the time of the next Lamprey Barrier Conference call with the Army Corps of Engineers.
5. Ms. Lane will follow up with Legal on the status of Hatches Corners Parking lot repair, the Madison Avenue drainage issue, and the volunteer caretaker position for Harpersfield.

New Business:

1. Mr. Berkey motioned that the Board approve an expenditure to purchase new shirts for the Greenway Volunteer Maintenance crew; not to exceed \$300.00. Second by Mr. Kohli. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
2. Mr. Best motioned to transfer and decrease appropriation funds from contract services in amount of \$1500 to cover the increase in appropriations for dues (\$300) and advertising (\$1200) expense. Second by Mr. Kohli. All in favor.
3. Mr. Best noted that the Friends of Camp Peet Volunteers would like to see the following at their Park: plans to plant trees, mark boundaries, enhance the parking area, build an outhouse or provide a portable, put in speed limit signs, build a new pavilion and picnic tables, provide fire rings and outfit their Volunteers with ID badges.
4. Mr. Kohli moved to accept the donation offered by Ken Kister of three lots in the Grand Lakes Resort. Mr. Kister has offered to pay for transfer fees. Mr. Berkey seconded. Four ayes, one nay. Motion passed by majority vote.
5. Mr. Berkey made a motion for the Board to place a Metroparks full- page ad in the 2017 County Visitor's Bureau Guide Book. Second by Ms. Lane. All were in favor. Motion passed. Mr. Frimerman will look over the options and contact Jacklyn Krysa.

6. Mr. Berkey motioned for the Metroparks to move forward and exercise their option to purchase the house and six acres on Cork Cold Springs Road from Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Property is adjacent to the Austinburg Lowlands Grant Property. The price agreed for the purchase will be in the amount of \$40,000 and will not be subject to a Conservation Easement. Second by Mr. Kohli. Call of the roll: Berkey, aye; Kohli, aye; Lane, aye; Best, aye; Carpenter, aye. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
7. Brett Rodstrom from Western Reserve Land Conservancy noted that the survey is near completion for the Austinburg Lowlands Grant property. The land, also known as the "Lutheran Camp" should transfer to the Metroparks soon.
8. Lampson Reservoir Metropark will have the boundaries marked by George Warnock. Mr. Rodstrom also noted the parcel identification problem with the Eyring Wetlands land donation project has been resolved; they will also be working on clearing up any Conservation Easement issues.

Upcoming Events:

Music Along The River	August 20 th & 21 st , 2106	Harpersfield Metropark
Megabucks-On-The Trail	September 10, 2016	Lampson Trailhead

Adjourn: There being no further business; Mr. Best moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:30pm. Mr. Kohli seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: September 14th, 2016 @ 6:30pm 91 N Chestnut St Jefferson
Next Work session: August 24th, 2016 @ 6:30pm

Minutes to be approved: September 2016

Paul Carpenter, President/Chair (or representative)

Pam Blough, Clerk