

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

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 13th, 2019

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 6:30 pm by Robert Best, President. Board Members attending and completing a quorum were: Robert Best, President; Marie Lane, Vice President; Holly Mayernick; and Paul Carpenter; Board Members. Charles Kohli, Member; was an excused absence. Staff in attendance: Larry Frimerman, Executive Director; Pam Blough, Board Clerk; and Brett Bellas, Operations Manager. Legal Counsel for the Board: Mike Hamper. Guests: JP Ducro IV, County Commissioner.

**Business at Hand:**

1. Agenda was reviewed; moved to approve by Lane, second by Mayernick. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. The February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 regular meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Carpenter, second by Lane. Mayernick abstained, Remainder of board members approved, constituting a quorum. Motion carried.
3. Expense worksheet for March reviewed. Motion to accept by Carpenter, second by Mayernick. All in favor. Motion carried.
4. The February Financials were reviewed. Motion by Carpenter to acknowledge. Second by Lane. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

JP Ducro-County Commissioner: recently attended a retreat at the Ashtabula County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Would like the Metroparks to consider using the county-wide branding symbols in our future signage. It was mentioned that the Metroparks already does make use of the symbols on our website programs, social media and our park brochures; but would try to include them in future signage. The Ashtabula YMCA would like to hold programs at the Metroparks with them being the program facilitators as well as collect fees for their services. It is unsure if "for fee" toured events or programs would be allowed in the parks; at the least reservations and or permit requests should be submitted for approval from the Metroparks. User groups will need to let us know in case others are using or reserving a park area on the same day. There may be certain criteria that differentiates the need for liability insurance or fees and open use of the parks. Also, at this point, our own volunteer program committees do not charge a fee and volunteer their time. Other parks do make use of vendors and usage fees. There may be liability issues. Mr. Hamper will do a little research for the Board. All agree this topic will need to be addressed.

**Director's Report/Old Business:**

- Ranger Program: still more development needed. Larry will update as needed.
- Red Brook Fire at Martinis: next steps to repair the damage; our insurance will not hold us responsible, the roofer has accepted liability. Larry and Brett are working through the repairs.
- Various Grants: Clean Ohio Conservation Fund-NRAC will recommend for Red Brook, as well as LWCF Red Brook 351K- CMAG Turkey Creek- 149K ECT Red Brook- 300K
- Pymatuning Greenway Update: ODOT/Tap grant applications are due May 17<sup>th</sup>; after submitting the Letter of Intent, we were approved for applying for the 3 miles of paved trail to run from Andover north. (\$1.625 million with a match from CDC of \$200,000).

- Master Plan update: Next steps are to set up dates for facilitated meetings to engage the public and other interest groups.
- Estimated closing date for the WRRSP properties in Conneaut is in about three months (July/August). We may have to front the money with a loan in order to close the properties in a timely fashion.
- Real Alloy Update: Purchase agreement has been signed by the seller. Mr. Hamper is working on zoning approval from Rock Creek Village.

**New Business:**

1. Motion by Mayernick to approve the by-laws, article 2 update to clarify the ability of the Board and Executive Director to hire legal counsel for each of their needs such as oil and gas searches and other real estate issues. Second by Lane. All in favor. Motion passed.
2. Motion by Carpenter approving Resolution 2019 -001 Request of Certification of Levy Funds by the Ashtabula County Auditor. Second by Lane. Call of the Roll: Carpenter, aye; Best, aye; Mayernick, aye; Lane, aye. By unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum, resolution passed.
3. Motion by Lane approving Resolution 2019 -002 Bicycle Route Resolution; supporting ODOT state bicycle routes. Second by Mayernick. Call of the Roll: Carpenter, aye; Best, aye; Mayernick, aye; Lane, aye. By unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum, resolution passed.
4. Motion by Lane approving Resolution 2019 -003 approval of 2018 Annual Financial Report. Second by Carpenter. Call of the Roll: Carpenter, aye; Best, aye; Mayernick, aye; Lane, aye. By unanimous vote of members present, constituting a quorum, resolution passed.
5. Discussion of potential land acquisition in the Geneva on the Lake and or Saybrook areas.

Adjourn: There being no further business; Ms. Lane moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:35pm. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

**Next Board Meetings:** April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 6:30pm  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 6:30pm

Minutes to be approved: April 2019

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Robert Best, Board President (or representative)

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Pam Blough, Clerk