

ASHTABULA COUNTY METROPARKS
91 N. Chestnut St. Jefferson, Ohio 44047

May 8, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Ashtabula County Metroparks Board of Commissioners was held via video conferencing and called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Holly Mayernick, President. Board members attending and completing a quorum were Marie Lane, Vice President, Paul Carpenter, Charlie Kohli and Joe Tredent. Staff in attendance: Larry Frimerman, Brett Bellas, Joe Webb and Antoinette Green. JP Ducro Ashtabula County Commissioner

Mayernick appointed Green to serve as permanent board clerk.

Agenda Review and Approval: Kohli moved to approve the agenda; Tredent seconded. All in favor.

Reviewed and Approved:

Carpenter moved to approve the April 8, 2020 meeting minutes; Lane seconded. All in favor

Kohli moved to approve the April, 2020 special meeting minutes; Tredent seconded, all in favor.

Kohli moved to accept the April 2020 Budget report, the allocations Report, and the April payments; Lane seconded. All in favor.

Audience Participation: Gloria Campbell was in attendance and shared that she visited the Lake County Metroparks website and felt it was a nice addition of the guides sharing points of interest. She expressed that this could be a nice addition for the Metroparks Facebook page. She will forward her video of the wildflowers to Antoinette Green.

JP Ducro commented that he had spoken to Steve Wychock, and Steve shared that he had visited Red Brook with Paul, Ryan and Antoinette regarding bridges that were in disrepair and needed attention. He had been pleased with the visit and input on bridge possibilities.

Larry Frimerman mentioned that the creek at Red Brook would be going through a Habitat Restoration.

President's Report:

Mayernick asked Frimerman to provide an update on his health and wished him well.

Mayernick asked for potential dates for building tour.

Mayernick shared that with the weather getting warmer, we would be looking at hiring additional part time rangers to cover the parks.

Mayernick reported that she issued a special permit for use of a golf cart for a disabled individual for fishing at Red Brook. We would like to look into issuing a Special Use Permit with the Metroparks Logo on a stick or magnet for use.

Mayernick provided an update regarding the credit card. Current card is being closed; a new card is to be opened at Andover Bank.

Mayernick encouraged board members to steer volunteers to Green.

Mayernick asked Frimerman and Bellas for updates as to the status of other park districts and closings. Both reported each park district is implementing rules that they feel are in the best interest of their parks. At this time there has not been specific guidance for parks given from the Governor's office. Discussion around the bathrooms and Pavilions and if they should remain closed or open them. Would we be able to maintain the bathrooms to the standards needed? After discussing the availability of staff to be able to clean after each use the decision was made to remain closed at this time.

Staff Reports:

Green reported:

1. Has conducted a couple of staff meetings
2. Been receiving numerous phone calls regarding part statuses
3. Working with auditor's office and getting up to speed with invoices/bill payments
4. Getting to know the office
5. Visited several parks with Bellas to view buildings, went to Red Brook with Carpenter to view the bridges, and explored the Greenway trail.

Bellas reported:

1. The boom mower has been hooked up and volunteers are working on the trails
2. Stairway at Indian Mound should be wrapping up soon
3. Signs have been up at Red Brook for the bridges that need work.
4. Bid work is underway at Red Brook
5. Turkey Creek has experienced a lot of erosion this will need to be addressed.
6. Turkey Creek MSA agreement, would like 2 board members to participate in the meeting. Carpenter and Lane volunteered.

Webb reported:

1. Continues to see a lot of ATV activity at parks, an increase at Sanborn Rd
2. Cited 6 people for vehicles on Greenway – most juveniles.
3. Trail cam installed by Allen road, the barrier is now being bypassed, causing damage.
4. Notified Brett of tires, etc. at Turkey Creek and found evidence of target shooting. Photographed erosion damage.
5. Trying to spread time over 5 to 6 days a week in order to get to all the parks

6. Report of gun fire at Hatchers Corners. No evidence could be found, report received second hand
7. Park trash dumpsters are being used by the public for larger personal items.

Larry Frimerman suggested putting an article in the newspaper that people will be cited for being on Park property with any type of motorized vehicles.

Frimerman reported:

1. Updated on the Nature Works enhancement grant.
2. Eastgate possible funding opportunities for Turkey Creek bypass and/or Comprehensive Planning at Upper Grand.

Old Business:

Discussion regarding Martinis rent, we would pro-rate if they open on May 21st and we will continue to look at as things begin to open.

Kohlhi Moved that Martini's return to regular lease terms beginning June 1st. Tredent seconded. All in favor.

Kohlhi motioned to accept the schedule for Turkey Creek, Lane seconded all in favor.

Carpenter shared that he had been down to Red Brook to look at the bridges, which he reported were in bad shape and will need to be addressed. One of the issues is the ability to get equipment into the area, which is low lying and soft.

Discussion around bridges and what possibilities could be available through other resources in the county, Tredent suggested reaching out to A-tech to see what their interest would be in building a bridge or bridges. The question was brought to Frimerman and Bellas whether a few bridges could be removed and still maintain access to trails.

New Business with Action Required:

Frimerman shared results of bid opening of North Shore Trail: One bid was received and attended by Koski Construction. They were less than 10% but more than acceptable. Koski submit a DBE utilization plan (required by ODOT) the deadline was required by 5:00 pm on this day, and Koski requested an extension of the next morning. All needs to be acceptable by ODOT.

Kohlhi Moved to accept the bid Contingent on ODOT approval and documentation received. Tredent seconded. All in favor.

Staff will monitor and update as needed.

Frimerman updated the board that the RFQ for Administrative and Engineering services were received; Green, Frimerman and Bellas will be scoring at the end of the week and will have results soon thereafter, will keep board in the loop.

Carpenter and Mayernick were in Dorset visiting a property and had observed that there had been dumping on park property, couches, appliances, etc. Near the Jones property on Gardner Road. Carpenter suggested putting a gate at the end so we can cut down on traffic.

Bellas made note that he had received quotes from the turf damage at Harpersfield Lane moved to approve the bid to repair the damage. Carpenter seconded. All in favor. Invoice will be submitted to the prosecutor's office for restitution.

Lane moved at 6:08 pm to adjourn the regular meeting and proceed in to executive session, via video conferencing with Green as a guest to discuss real estate and personnel matters. Tredent seconded. Roll call. All in favor. Executive session commenced at 6:14 p.m.

Regular session, via video conferencing, was reconvened at 6:50 pm

Lane moved to approve payment of the employer's anticipated portion of Cobra for the month of May for Green.

Work session to view the buildings is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th at 5:30 PM.

Tredent moved to adjourn; Lane seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Holly Mayernick, Board President

Antoinette Green, Board Clerk