

Press Release

TO: Sandusky Register
FROM: Judge Roger E. Binette
DATE: August 22, 2011
RE: MetroParks' Commissioner Board Appointment

“He is a man of Character, Integrity, and Honesty. As a man of Faith, he has strong convictions of right and wrong, and lives by those convictions daily. He is a humble man, willing to listen and learn from his fellow citizens. He is not a person who seeks the limelight, but chooses to be a leader by example”. Those were the words I used to describe Micah Vawters when I appointed him as a commissioner for the MetroParks' board in 2006. They were true then and they are still true today. I am extremely proud of Micah and his performance while on the board.

Recently, some employees at the MetroParks experienced very troubling and difficult times in conjunction with actions and decisions by the former Park Director. During those times Micah and Chief Safety & Security Officer Randy Glovinsky were responsible for championing their causes. When questions arose regarding practices and actions that were questionable, it was Micah and Randy that brought the issues to light. Lay-offs were suggested – under the guise of budget restraints- for specific employees that questioned the former Director's actions. It was Micah that obtained a ‘stay’ of the lay-offs in order to further investigate the need for lay-offs. In all, those employees embraced Micah and Randy's efforts in standing up for them.

Unfortunately for those employees, our community and myself, Micah is taking a job transfer to another state. Although the actual move will not take place for a few months, Micah tendered his resignation now. His reason – “because he felt it was only fair to have his replacement be involved in the selection of the new Park Director”. In that regard, I have appointed Randy (Glovinsky) as Micah's replacement on the board. Although Randy has left his post as Chief Safety & Security Officer at the MetroParks for a new job, his new employment will allow him to remain in our community.

Randy, as the former Huron Police Chief, has worked budgets, directed staff members, and provided leadership. As Chief, Randy was able to build relationships with members in his community. This should serve him well in developing proper relationships with those folks that have suffered under the Greenway situation. Randy, as the former Chief Safety & Security Officer, has first hand knowledge of the MetroParks, its operations and its employees. Over the past months Randy has worked side by side with Micah on the MetroParks' issues. Randy and Micah stayed in constant communication with each other, as well as myself, during that time. In appointing Randy it will ensure continuity for workers, the programs, and the vision of the MetroParks. By appointing Randy, employees will continue to have their voice heard by the Board. This was something Micah brought to the board, and felt strongly should continue.

Although disappointed to be losing my friend Micah as a Commissioner, I am confident that Randy will continue to carry on the principles of leadership that Micah so proudly embraced.

Judge Roger E. Binette