

<i>Minutes</i>	September 12, 2018
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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Miears called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in the Commission Room of the Maple Grove Center, Osborn MetroPark, Huron, Ohio.

ROLL CALL

Park Commissioners Present: James “Don” Miears, Chairperson
 Troy Wisehart, Vice Chairperson
 Margaret Murray, Vice Chairperson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- (1) Commissioner Wisehart moved to waive the reading and approve the draft minutes of the August 9, 2018 meeting.

Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

August Fund Activity Summary, Citizens Bank Checking Account Reconciliation, Citizens Bank MMIA Reconciliation:

Members of the Park Commission had received copies of these reports. Ms. Price reported that at the end of August our cash balance was \$3,807,960.07.

Resolution 2018-19: August Schedule of Payables

Ms. Price distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables via email and paper copies during the meeting. She stated that we had received our second half property tax settlement and the second half of our rollback homestead exemption. She asked the Board if they had any questions on the payables, explaining that the new format is so much more detailed. Comm. Wisehart asked if we had ticks and fleas that were being treated. Ms. Bowman-Moore explained that it was for Barnyard animals under our care. Per the Barnyard contract, we pay for care of cats and several other barnyard animals.

Comm. Miears inquired about the payment to Edwards Land Clearing & Tree Service. Ms. Bowman-Moore explained that it was for one half of the payment to Edwards Land Clearing & Tree Service for the Steinen restoration project, where they cleared seven acres of land for preparing it for restoration. Comm. Miears asked about the \$8,600 payment to Custom Concrete

& Design. Ms. Price stated that it was for the new concrete basketball court at Birmingham School MetroPark.

(2) Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2018-19 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Several members of the Firelands Area Pickleball Association were in attendance to show support for a presentation of a possible addition of four new pickle ball courts at Osborn MetroPark. Mr. Bob Eirons addressed the Board, he gave a background on pickle ball, the benefits, and the amount of participants for morning play, stated that it is the fastest growing sport in the country and thanked Erie MetroParks for the four permanent courts they had installed. He then explained that the problem is that there is currently space for 24 people to play and stated that sometimes there are 40 people who show up to play and that causes long wait times. They would like the Board to consider adding more courts. He added that he had met with Ms. Bowman-Moore and were going to work on attaining their 501 (c) 3 nonprofit status and getting special permits from the Park District. He also stated that they showed Ms. Bowman-Moore their insurance and financials.

Comm. Wisehart stated that if they do want more courts that they needed to be regulation sized and professionally installed. He stated that they should not be located adjacent to existing courts and not added to the tennis courts or extended into the parking area. Mr. Eirons stated that they needed four new courts and then recognized other members of the group in attendance. Mr. Eirons stated that he learned about social equity from Ms. Bowman-Moore and that the Park's mission is to serve all of the residents of Erie County, not just a select group. Again he requested the addition of four new courts where the Park District wants to build them. An audience member addressed the Board and suggested that we go to the west or other area and keep the tennis courts. He added that there is a unique social aspect to pickle ball and anyone can show up and play. He felt that it would be good for the community and good for the Park.

Comm. Wisehart does not like the idea of encroaching into the parking lot and wants to authorize Ms. Bowman-Moore to obtain some cost estimates for the new courts. Comm. Miars added that he would like to end this issue today, and make a decision one way or the other. He stated that he wanted to give Ms. Bowman-Moore some direction as to number for a cost and put a cap on the amount to spend.

Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that the Park District totally supports pickleball. She added that the park has equipment available if anyone wants to play. The staff even played together as a team building event when the courts first opened. However, she cannot support the expansion of courts, since the courts are not used for 40-60% of the day. She expressed, soccer has the highest sign up in years and she doesn't want to take one of their fields away. She would like to set up a

committee of herself, two members of Firelands Area Pickleball Association and some of her Operations staff and work on a final scope for the courts and get three written quotes. She added that FAPA needs to communicate with Erie MetroParks when they are using the courts and have events, which has not happened in the past. Special Permits, insurance needs to be maintained and reservations made when appropriate. Also since money is being collected, a 501c3 needs to be established before spring play.

Comm. Murray asked if there were any other places where they could install the courts, maybe on one of the ball fields. She felt that the cost would be double. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it would probably be in the six figures. Comm. Murray recommended that it be regulation size and would like to keep the tennis courts and the parking lot. She added that the pickle ball lines on the tennis courts makes it impossible to play tennis.

Comm. Miers stated that he would like Ms. Bowman- Moore to form a committee and have all of the information at the November Board meeting so that they can make a final decision.

Pickle ball

(3) Commissioner Wisheart moved to authorize Ms. Bowman-Moore to form a committee and get formal bids for the additional courts and present it to the Board at the November meeting.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Amy Bowman-Moore reported the following

-Edwards has completed their work on the Steinen property.

-The Friends of Erie MetroParks Go Take A Hike event that was scheduled for this past Sunday was cancelled due to weather.

-It's hunting season and the Steinen Wildlife Area is closed.

-Phase two of the Steinen life Estate restoration will begin this fall.

-EMP is considering contracting with Sunrise Co-Operative for new fuel tanks and service.

-A new donated bench was installed at Wakefield Beach MetroPark.

-There will be contracted helicopter spraying for phragmites along East Sandusky Bay on September 17th, weather permitting.

-Ms. Bowman Moore will be meeting the week of September 24th with the city of Sandusky and consultants regarding the memorandum of understanding for Landing Park.

Comm. Miers wanted to return to the earlier discussion on finances. He asked if Erie MetroParks paid the back taxes on the Steinen property. Ms. Price stated that the Board had authorized her to pay the taxes for the full year. She did and applied for the tax exemption status for the property.

OLD BUSINESS

Pickleball

Was discussed during the Public Comment section above.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2018-20: Resolution to Accept Rates and Amounts

Ms. Price explained that this is a standard resolution that we do every year per the Ohio Revised Code stating that we will accept amounts from the current levies.

- (4) Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2018-20: Accept Rates and Amounts
Second: Commissioner Wisehart
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Purchase of a new copier

Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that her current spending limit is \$5,000 so she is requesting Board approval to spend more than that amount for a new copier at the Frost Center. An internal group researched purchasing vs leasing. Purchasing was found to be the better option. The large copier is also the printer for park staff, the fax machine, scanner and handles a large volume of in house marketing material printing. Ms. Bowman-Moore is asking permission to purchase the copier for \$9,548.

- (5) Commissioner Wisehart authorized Ms. Bowman-Moore to purchase a new copier for the Frost Center.
Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Resolution 2018-21: Resolution to declare intent to select depositories

Ms. Price stated that the Uniform Depository Act requires us to solicit banks, compare rates and select a banking institution every five years. This resolution authorizes Ms. Price and Ms. Bowman-Moore to publish a notice in the newspaper, send out requests for proposal and report to the Board.

- (6) Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2018-21: Declare intent to select depositories.
Second: Commissioner Wisehart
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Travel & Training Summary (acknowledge and file) NONE

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There were three new special permits added to the list.

- (7) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Special Permit Summary provided to them.
Second: Commissioner Wisehart
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Surplus Items List (acknowledge and file) NONE

Other (Misc. items from Board or Administration) NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Wisehart moved to enter into Executive Session to consider the following matters:
Land Acquisition.

- (8) Second: Commissioner Murray
- Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: aye
- Commissioner Murray: aye
- Commissioner Wisehart: aye
- Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

The Park Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 1:55 PM and returned to Regular Session at 2:02 PM.

Comm. Miears stated that he was unable to attend the regularly scheduled October Board Meeting. The Board agreed to change the October Board Meeting to THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25th at the same time, 1PM.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business brought before the Park Commission,

- (9) Commissioner Murray moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:04 PM.
- Second: Commissioner Wisehart
- Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: aye
- Commissioner Murray: aye
- Commissioner Wisehart: aye
- Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The foregoing is a true and accurate account of the September 12, 2018 meeting of the Park Commission, and has been formally adopted by the Commissioners as such, and shall be placed in and become part of the official Proceedings of the Board of Park Commissioners.

APPROVED:

James L. "Don" Miears, Chairperson

Date

ATTEST:

Amy Bowman-Moore, Executive Director

Date