

<i>Minutes</i>	October 25, 2018
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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Miears called the meeting to order at 1:02 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 September 12, 2018 meeting.

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS

September 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 September our cash balance was \$3,748,721.98.

Resolution 2018-22: September Schedule of Payables

Ms. Price distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables via email and paper copies during the meeting. She stated that we have received the 2.5 percent rollback settlement of \$72,103. She noted on the Schedule of Payables, a payment to the City of Vermilion for \$68,655 for the conservation easement for the beach extension. She asked the Board if they had any questions. Comm. Miears inquired about the \$20,000 to Edwards Tree Service, was that the final payment. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it was the final payment for Phase I. He also inquired about the Barnes payment, if it was for the soil to fill the holes on the Steinen Property. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it was.

- (2) Commissioner Wisehart moved to approve Resolution 2018-22 Schedule of Payables as presented.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Breann Holman from Erie County Soil & Water was present to ask the Board to approve a Special Permit to allow alcohol consumption at an appreciation chili dinner in March to be held in the Frost Center for their volunteers from their Stream Monitoring Program. She explained that the dinner is only two hours long, they will not furnish or sell any alcohol. It is an option for the guests to bring along a drink or two. It is a well-controlled event, never have had any problems in previous years. Comm. Wisehart asked if there would be any liability on Erie MetroParks behalf. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that the Board has both approved and denied permits.

Special Permit for alcohol consumption at Erie Soil & Water dinner in the Frost Center

(3) Commissioner Wisehart moved to approval the Special Permit as stated above.

Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed with two affirmative votes. With Commissioner Miears casting a no vote.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director Amy Bowman-Moore reported the following

- Held 53 programs for 1,422 people.
- Received a Nature Works Grant for \$8,181 towards the construction of Shelter #5.
- Closed on the Vermilion property easement.
- The new basketball court at Birmingham School MetroPark is completed.
- Two staff are attending the Ohio Prescribed Burn Manager Training in Columbus next week.
- Edison Woods MetroPark will be closed soon for the Deer Hunt and it will be closed on Tuesday, October 30th for a training session hosted by Sheriff Sigsworth.
- The RFP’s for new banking contracts have been sent out.
- Tomorrow is Beki Hineline’s last day, and Troy Nemitz will fill that opening.

OLD BUSINESS

Pickle ball Court Expansion

Ms. Bowman-Moore passed out a sheet comparing the two bids for the pickle ball court expansion. Comm. Miears inquired about the 5% contingency. He doesn’t like that as part of the bidding process. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it was pretty standard and a usual part of the forms. Comm. Wisehart asked if it was unusual that we had only received two bids for this project. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated not really, and she believed it was because it is a small job for many of the local contractors, so they may not have been interested. Ms. Bowman-Moore presented some comparisons from our recent capital improvement budgets to the cost of the one pickle ball project. It is almost our entire budget for capital improvements. As they have estimated \$200,000 for all of 2019’s improvements. Comm. Wisehart then asked if this would take most of the capital improvement budget for 2019 and Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it would, and it would have to be an additional allocation. Comm. Miears agreed and stated that the question is, do we want to spend above the normal capital improvement budget. He stated that we have the money, and in his mind, it would not strain the budget. Ms. Bowman-Moore added that it not so much the strain on the budget, but the lack of manpower.

Comm. Miers stated that the Board needs to decide if they are ok with spending this money to support one section of the County's population, and then he asked for a motion to approve or disapprove the project. Comm. Murray asked if there were other options, i.e. accept the bid, rebid the project or to change the scope of the project. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that the scope is pretty straight forward and dictated by the pickle ball guidelines. Comm. Wisehart asked if the price was worth it for one section of the population. Mr. Eirons from the Firelands Area Pickleball Association stated that their group has grown from 12 members in the beginning to over 100 in just four years. He inquired if they could recoup some of the costs to the Park by holding major tournaments, and donating some of the fee money to Erie MetroParks. Ms. Bowman-Moore explained how other groups hold tournaments at Erie MetroParks, what you rent, what you have to pay for, etc.

Mr. Wohl, their president, stated that there was probably \$20,000 in added costs to make it ADA accessible, and did we have to do that. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that yes, we are bound by Ohio law, that any new construction must be ADA compliant. A gentleman from the FAPA stated that the cost was reasonable for the square footage, adding that he had experience building tennis and pickle ball courts. A lady added that it is game for all ages, several of them bring their grandkids. Ms. Wohl added that this will open the doors for school and public usage of the courts.

Comm. Murray expressed her concern to Mr. Eirons that she was on a website that listed places you can play pickle ball in Erie County and saw Bob Eirons name and phone number listed as a contact for Erie MetroParks. She would like him to change it to the contact for Firelands Area Pickleball Association which plays at Osborn MetroPark. Comm. Wisehart stated that we have talked this death and made a motion to approve the project.

- (4) Commissioner Wisehart moved to approve and go forward with the construction of the additional pickle ball courts, using the lowest bid.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Mr. Eirons of the Firelands Area Pickleball Association thanked the Board and gave kudos to Ms. Bowman-Moore for her professionalism and courteousness throughout the project. The members of the Association responded with applause.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2018-23: Approval of \$30,000 for Local Park District Grant Program for 2019

Comm. Miers stated that this is 20% increase from the \$25,000 in the past. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it was. That it is a really great program with good participation from the local entities and that she would like to increase it to \$30,000 for 2019. Comm. Murray and Wisehart agreed.

- (5) Commissioner Wisehart moved to approve Resolution 2018-23: Approval of \$30,000 for Local Park District Grant Program for 2019.

Second: Commissioner Murray
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.

(6) 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)

There was a list of items distributed to the Board to declare as surplus, so that the staff can appropriately discard the items.

(7) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Surplus Items List as provided to them.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

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 1:39 PM and returned to Regular Session at 2:33 PM.

Comm. Murray moved to authorize Ms. Bowman-Moore to approach the appropriate entities to ask for permission to allow the City of Sandusky to obtain an easement for property in the Putman Marsh Preserve area.

(9) Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: aye

Commissioner Murray: aye

Commissioner Wisehart: aye

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.
Comm. Mears asked if the January 2019 Board meeting could be pushed back a week from January 9th to January 16th. He also stated that he would be absent from the February and March 2019 Board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

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

- (10) Commissioner Wisehart moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:36 PM.
- Second: Commissioner Murray
- Roll Call: Commissioner Mears: 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 October 25, 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" Mears, Chairperson

Date

ATTEST:

Amy Bowman-Moore, Executive Director

Date