

ERIE METROPARKS
Board of Park Commissioners

Minutes

October 14, 2020

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- (1) Commissioner Murray moved to waive the reading and approve the draft minutes of the September 23, 2020 as presented.
 Second: Commissioner Wisehart
 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 stated that we had a cash balance of \$4,816,771.60 at the end of September. She noted that there was a typographical error on the General Journal, it should have said OPERS.

Resolution 2020-15: October Schedule of Payables

Ms. Price distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables via email. She noted a few items. On page three, Domenic Mangano for \$14,138.00 was for the cottage kit for maple sugaring programs. The Ohio Ag payment that was missing a description was for the diagnosis and repair of the Massey-Ferguson tractor. There was a payment to Scott Fischer for \$2,477.00 to install new wiring and hardware for our existing phone lines at the Frost Center. It is believed that when we had the storm on Labor Day weekend that lightning may have hit the building and fried the system. Ms. Bowman-Moore alerted the Board that we have an outdated system and to be aware that soon Erie MetroParks will be looking into a new system.

Comm. Miers inquired as to what the Sugar Shack will be used for. Ms. Bowman-Moore explained that it will be used for housing the equipment to make maple sugar, and we will be doing programs from that location. She stated that it was mostly funded by grants with the help of the Friends of Erie MetroParks, who also are helping with the construction. Ms. Bowman-

Moore added that for the grant applications, it was listed that most of the use is for maple sugaring. It can be used for other programming as well.

Comm. Mears asked about the payment on page two, to Sweetwater. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that it was for podcast production equipment. The programming department is currently recording podcasts called "Off the Trail with Erie MetroParks".

(2) Commissioner Wisehart moved to approve Resolution 2020-15 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public in attendance at today's meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Bowman-Moore reported the following:

-An exterminator was called and sprayed for a large bee infestation in the wall of the Frost Center near the programming office.

-A new security system with cameras is being installed in the park system. While they were installing, they discovered the bee issue.

-At Castalia Quarry MetroPark there continues to be vandalism in the form of spray-painted graffiti on trees, benches, fossilized rocks, etc. Staff has covered or removed the spray paint, as it has been reported. She has contracted with the Sheriff's Office for additional patrols, but the problem persists. Comm. Wisehart asked if we could put a trail cam in the area to try and catch the vandals. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that there has been issues all over the Quarry, not isolated to a certain spot or area.

-The Great Pumpkin Hunt program has been a huge success.

-Programmers have started recording podcasts.

-Staff has applied for an Ohio Parks & Recreation Association award for the Discovery Trail.

-Cross country and soccer events have been going well.

-Pickleball ends on November 1st. Nets, screens, etc. will be taken down then.

-The controlled deer hunt at Edison Woods MetroPark this year, has seen the most applications submitted in its history.

-Davey Resource Group has completed an evaluation and submitted a report on proposed restoration for the back part of East Sandusky Bay.

-She reminded Comm. Mears that his current term expires in December and that he should contact his appointing judge.

-She mentioned she was contacted about a property. There are 86 acres in Milan Township off SR 250. The property owner is not looking to sell, he wants us to take care of it as a park. Ms. Bowman-Moore asked the commissioners if they were interested, they stated no.

-Two large ticket items that will be appearing on the 2021 budget under Capital Improvements; the bridge on the Milan Towpath that is over the river, will need to be replaced/repaired, it is seriously deteriorating. Also, the barns at the Barnyard are in bad shape and need to be replaced.

-Comm. Mears asked Ms. Bowman-Moore if she could submit her Director's Report ahead of time (like she sends her weekly report to the Board) and the Board could then vote to acknowledge and file it, similar to the Special Permit Summary. Discussion ensued and Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that they could.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Renewal of the James H. McBride Arboretum contract

The talks with BGSU Firelands are going well. Bowling Green State Universities legal department will be drawing up a new, three-year contract that will expire in three years, like our current contract. They do not make contracts that automatically renew. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that she should have the new contract to present for approval at the November board meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Travel & Training Summary (acknowledge and file) NONE

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There were three special permits added to the list. Ms. Bowman-Moore explained that they were for a charity walk at Osborn MetroPark and for a Sheriff training and Quarry Hill Orchard hayrides through Edison Woods MetroPark. She added COVID-19 guideline language has been added to all special permits.

(3) Commissioner Wisehart moved to acknowledge and file the Special Permit Summary provided.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Credit Card Summary (acknowledge and file)

Ms. Bowman-Moore asked the board to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary.

(4) Commissioner Wisehart moved to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary provided.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Disposal of Surplus Personal Property & Remove from Inventory (acknowledge and file) NONE

Other (Misc. items from Board or Administration)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Land Acquisition

The Park Commissioners entered Executive Session at 1:27 PM and returned to Regular Session at 1:34 PM.

(5) Commissioner Murray moved to authorize Ms. Bowman-Moore to have Hartung Title begin creating a Quit Claim Deed packet for the Hildebrand property, as long as there is no cost to the Park District.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

(6) Commissioner Wisehart moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:36 PM.

Second: Commissioner Murray

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 October 14, 2020 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