

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. (via Zoom)

ROLL CALL

Park Commissioners Present: James “Don” Miears, 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 May 12 and June 14, meetings.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

Members of the Park Commission had received copies of these reports.

(2) Resolution 2021-11: June Schedule of Payables

Ms. Price distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables via email. She stated that she would like to point out a few larger purchases this month. Page 4, to Adkins Fence was for the additional requested fencing at the pickleball & tennis courts. Page 7, to Norwalk Concrete Industries, \$35,875 is for the new bathroom building at Edison Woods MetroPark. It will be open for public use from April to November. Comm. Murray stated that she thought this was a good move, we needed a permanent restroom out there for the public to use.

Commissioner Wisehart moved to approve Resolution 2021-11 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rich Shiltz was in attendance representing the West Huron Youth (WHY) Club. He stated that they have been doing some projects, and he would like to call Ms. Bowman-Moore and set up a

meeting regarding the club, as there has been a changing of the guard so to speak. The kids have been helping Mr. Toll with his nest boxes and turtle nesting areas. He reported the youth hunt last fall went well.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Bowman-Moore referenced her report. She stated the following:

- She did not send a report for them to approve, she apologized.
- The bathroom at Edison Woods MetroPark is set and 90% completed.
- Pickleball fencing and windscreens have been installed.
- Wiring has been completed at the Barnyard barn.
- Martyn Drabik-Hamshare will be starting Wednesday, June 23rd, as our new naturalist. He comes with a wealth of knowledge and well educated. Will be a great addition to the staff.
- A Travel and Training form needs approved for her, Melissa Price and Mark Malone to attend the 2021 OPRA- Ohio Parks & Recreation Assoc. Leadership Summit in Columbus, November 17-18, 2021.
- Osborn MetroPark has been busy, outdoor, in-person programs have started and well attended.
- Ms. Bowman-Moore will type up her report and sent to them.

OLD BUSINESS

Bickley Barn

Ron Cull was in attendance representing the Bickley Barn/Jenkins Warehouse restoration group from Milan. He emailed the Board and park personnel a proposal and engineering study of the property. Mr. Cull represents an ad hoc group that is trying to save and formulate a use for the Jenkins Warehouse. He gave an overview of his documents and partial costs he had attained for the different phases of the project. Comm. Wisheart asked of the \$165,000 was just to bring it up to code to be a storage building? Mr. Cull responded that this number is to shore up the building, but they would not use any park money at all.

Ms. Bowman-Moore asked about the cost to remove all the items in the building. He stated the cost was in there for ten 40-yard dumpsters and they would use volunteers to remove it. Ms. Bowman-Moore reminded Mr. Cull using volunteer labor would not be a safe thing to do. Discussion ensued and Comm. Miars inquired as to what the group's goal was for the building. Mr. Cull stated at a minimum to save the building for storage and ultimately a visitor's center for Milan. His group wants to preserve the historical value as Milan was the second largest canal port at one time.

Comm. Wisheart stated that they needed to be good stewards of the taxpayer's money. There are lots of costs ranging from just saving for storage to a building suitable for public use. Comm. Murray expressed that the building was in use for the canal for only five years, and not used for over 170 years, due to the invention of the steam engine. She added that the history is neat, but is the building historical?

Comm. Miars asked where the money was coming from for this project. Mr. Cull stated that they have the money for the full architectural study. Ms. Price referenced the maritime museum and

Wakefield Mansion project in Vermilion. How the community tried to save the museum, and when the museum relocated, still tried to save the Wakefield Mansion for public use, but it was still not feasible in the end. Erie MetroParks would be willing to put up historic markers, and educational panels in the area to explain the history.

Mr. Cull explained that they would need to do a lot of fundraising, including grants, etc. to save the building and they do not have exact costs at this time. He asked the Board if they could move along with phase one and delay the removal of the building. Comm. Miers stated that he would like to end this conversation now and move it to executive session to further discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Travel & Training Summary (acknowledge and file)

2021 OPRA Leadership Summit training for A. Bowman-Moore, M. Price and M. Malone.

(3) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the Travel and Training as provided.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There were several new special permits to acknowledge and file this month.

(4) 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.

(5) 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)

Ms. Bowman-Moore asked the board to acknowledge and file the list of surplus items.

(6) Commissioner Wisehart moved to acknowledge and file the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property as provided.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Other (Misc. items from Board or Administration)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Land Acquisition

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

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

The Park Commissioners entered Executive Session at 1:44 PM and returned to Regular Session at 2:24 PM.

- (8) Commissioner Wisehart moved to allow Mr. Peters, Legal Counsel, to represent Erie MetroParks for the Huron River Project.
Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

- (9) Commissioner Wisehart moved to allow Mr. Peters, Legal Counsel, to represent Erie MetroParks for the Howe Breeze Hill Farm Easements project.
Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

- (10) Commissioner Wisehart moved to allow Mr. Peters, Legal Counsel, to represent Erie MetroParks and develop the details to give \$100,000 towards the Vermilion Beach Restoration Project.
Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

- (11) Again, the topic of the Bickley Warehouse was discussed. The commissioners felt their request of the Milan group to have the building evaluated, with an estimated cost, and an end use be proposed, was not done. The Commissioners felt that five months was more than long enough to get an evaluation of the building.

Commissioner Wisehart moved to dismantle the Bickley Barn per the quote, and to use the proceeds to put back into Milan. To be used towards an educational site that highlights the canal history.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

- (11) Commissioner Wisehart moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:28 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 June 16, 2021, 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