

***Minutes***

**March 13, 2024**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Wisheart called the meeting to order at 12:56 PM in the Commission Room of the Maple Grove Center, Osborn MetroPark, Huron, Ohio.

**ROLL CALL**

Park Commissioners Present:           James “Don” Mears, Chairperson EXCUSED  
  Troy Wisheart, Vice Chairperson  
  Margaret Murray, Vice Chairperson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

(1) Commissioner Murray moved to waive the reading of and approve the draft minutes of the February 14, 2024, meeting.

Second:           Commissioner Wisheart

Action:           Motion carried unanimously with two affirmative votes.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

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

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

(2) Resolution 2024-06: March Schedule of Payables

Ms. Ferback distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables and a new sheet for the Capital Projects Fund Budget & Expense Year to Date Report via email. Ms. Ferback pointed out on page one of the Cash Receipts Journal received the second \$100,000 donation from Mr. & Mrs. Deering and two more donations from Mrs. Hahler-Johnson. We expect to receive one more donation from her to complete the pledge.

Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2024-06 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second:           Commissioner Wisheart

Action:           Motion carried unanimously with two affirmative votes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gary Toll wished to express to the Board and Erie MetroParks his thanks for our help with the work being completed with the West Creek Conservancy and the Friends of Pipe Creek. He added as part of the Perkins Township Park Board, that they will be applying for our Local Park Capital Improvement Grant.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Price referred to her report sent via email. Ms. Price added the following to her Director's Report:

-Ms. Price stated that she, Mark Malone, and Sue Daniel attended the planning meeting for the 2025 OPRA Conference and Trade Show at Kalahari. She added that Ms. Daniel is the Chair of the Exhibit Hall Committee, Mr. Malone is on the networking committee, and she serves on the Education Committee.

-She distributed the proposed driveway drawings for East Sandusky Bay that Alex Etchill prepared for us. Discussion ensued about the roundabout around the Faber property and the land it will take from the Steinen property. Ms. Price stated that ODOT has to make a good faith offer with appropriate compensation and she and Mr. Peters, legal counsel, are working with ODOT on that and the verbiage within the NEPA concurrence. They will also review the Steinen property recorded restrictions as they may pertain to this work.

-She added that we had a pelican post that went viral and became our highest social media post to date, with 178,495 views!

(3) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the Director's Report as presented.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion carried unanimously with two affirmative votes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Building Site Review- Amy Bowman-Moore

-Ms. Bowman-Moore reported that the building is approx. 65% complete. The HVAC is being installed, as well as the stone walls. The permanent electricity has been installed and connected. Interior work is being completed including the drywall and the ceilings. There was a walk through with the big donors and they loved it. Ms. Price added that Ms. Hahler-Johnson said that Roger (the building namesake) "is very happy", and the Deering's "loved it" as well.

B. Hart Billboard Update

Mr. Peters stated that he had sent a certified letter to the Dayton company that bought out the local Hart billboard company and had not heard back yet. He stated that we are currently on a holding pattern on this issue and will update when he hears back from the company.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Annual Donation Report (acknowledge and file)

Ms. Ferback stated that this is an annual report filed each year. It is larger this year than last year due to the donations for the Generation-to-Generation Campaign for the new nature center. It includes donations, grants, and volunteer service time.

(4) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Annual Donation Report for 2023 as presented.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with two affirmative votes.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

Travel & Training Summary NONE

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There was one new special permit to acknowledge and file this month. It was for the BASL Bay Area Soccer League for their spring soccer season. Discussion ensued as to their expired non-profit status. Ms. Price explained that after conferring with staff they agreed to grandfather BASL to provide the Saturday soccer league as long as they remain a low-cost community league. This is a long standing, 25+ year tradition of providing youth soccer at Osborn MetroPark.

(5) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Special Permit Summary provided.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with two affirmative votes.

Credit Card Summary (acknowledge and file)

Ms. Price asked the board to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary as presented.

(6) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary provided.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with two affirmative votes.

Disposal of Surplus Personal Property & removal from inventory (None)

Other (Misc. items from Board or Administration) (None)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Murray moved to enter Executive Session to consider the following matters: To consider a possible land acquisition.

7) Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: excused

Commissioner Murray: aye

Commissioner Wisehart: aye

Action: Motion passed unanimously with two affirmative votes.

The Park Commissioners entered Executive Session at 1:30 PM and returned to Regular Session at 1:41 PM.

(8) Commissioner Murray motioned to authorize Ms. Price to continue further discussions regarding the possible land acquisition via donation.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion passed unanimously with two affirmative votes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

- (9) Commissioner Murray moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 PM.  
Second: Commissioner Wisehart  
Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: excused  
Commissioner Murray: aye  
Commissioner Wisehart aye  
Action: Motion passed unanimously with two affirmative votes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The foregoing is a true and accurate account of the March 13, 2024, 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Troy Wisehart, Acting Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Price, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date