

**MINUTES OF THE JOHNNY APPLESEED METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONTHLY MEETING**

**8:00 a.m.
April 21, 2015**

**2355 Ada Road
Lima, OH 45801**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman, Cathy Ahman. Present was Commissioner, Bob Antibus, Kevin Bruin; Legal Advisor, Dale Vandemark; Staff, Chris Fetzer, Mark Mohr, Bob O'Connor, Vince Sarno, Beth Theisen; Director, Kevin Haver and Recording Secretary, Denise Graham.

Kevin Bruin made motion to approve the minutes for the March 17, 2015 meeting as submitted. Bob Antibus seconded. The motion passed.

Kevin Haver reported the following:

- It has been a very busy month with speaking engagements and meetings regarding the levy. Overall, there has been very little feedback. Spoke at the Delphos City Council meeting on the evening of April 20th. There were several questions regarding the Cooperative Park Improvement Grant Program. Many elected officials were not in office during the time the CPIGP was active and don't know how the program impacted their agency. The CPIGP was active for 15 years prior to being suspended 7 years ago. With this in mind, a letter was prepared last month along with a summary of all of the projects the CPIGP had funded during its 15 years and mailed to all Allen County elected officials.
- The Lockwood property adjacent to the Lippincott Bird Sanctuary is for sale. The real estate agent for the seller contacted the Park District to see if there is an interest in purchasing the property. The property includes a total of 139 acres with 99 acres wooded, a highway pond and 40 acres tillable ground. It could be a Clean Ohio Fund grant project. It may also be possible to split the property between the woods and farm ground. The approximate cost is \$6500/acre.
- Attended and spoke at the Local Government Funding meetings at the Lima News.
- An "After the Levy" get-together is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5 at 7 p.m. at the McElroy Center.

Vince Sarno reported the following:

- On March 16, the Agerter Road River Access and Kendrick Woods Kiracofe Prairie were opened for the season.
- Removed some of the hazardous trees and dead ash trees at Ottawa Metro Park, McLean Teddy Bear Park and Heritage Park west.
- Prepared the campground and shower house for the season opening on April 10th.
- A concrete slab was poured at the campground host site on April 14th.

Bob O'Connor reported the following:

- On March 10, Richard and Bob participated in the OSU/Rhodes State Career Day.
- Effective April 1, the seasonal rangers are back on the schedule.
- On April 10, Richard participated in a career day at University of Findlay.
- Richard and Bob, along with other ranger staff have been doing video surveillance at Ft. Amanda Park.

Chris Fetzer reported the following:

- The need for volunteers is kicking into high gear with spring hikes, pioneer skills and day camps scheduled.
- The summer amphitheater programs are all scheduled and include a good variety of entertainers.
- The Activate Allen County Pedestrian Count begins on May 5 and continues through May 7. Volunteers are needed to count.

Beth Theisen reported the following:

- The month of March was full with the attendance of several conferences.
- The butterfly, wildflower and peregrine falcon monitoring programs have begun.

Mark Mohr reported the following:

- The bluebird trail monitoring has begun.
- The Area Horses & Harness Plow Days weekend is scheduled for this weekend April 25 & 26.

Old Business

Kevin Bruin moved that the March 2015 Monthly Budget Update be approved as submitted. Bob Antibus seconded. The motion passed.

Kevin Bruin moved that the March 2015 Bills be approved as submitted. Bob Antibus seconded. The motion passed.

Project Status Update

Kevin Haver reported the following:

- The restroom for the Allen County Farm Park is scheduled to be set tomorrow. The overall cost is \$119,000.
- The Bandshell dedication is scheduled for May 30 at 6:30 p.m. A bronze plaque has been ordered for the Ahl family. The state's final inspection of the bandshell is complete.
- Ohio Paving has subcontracted out the work for the remainder of their contract on the Hermon Wood. One of their subcontractors is RD Jones who just finished installing the sewer which passed inspection. They will be installing the storm drainage, excavating roads, parking lots and the stone base. Mid-Ohio has dropped off some of their equipment in preparation of the trail and bridge work. KBI is anxious to start the shelters.

New Business

- The Arbor Day ceremony is scheduled for Friday, April 24th at the amphitheater in Ottawa Metro Park. Jerry Johnson & Thora Davis will each be honored with a Red Oak tree. Kevin Bruin & Cathy Ahman plan to attend.
- Kevin has been working on a NatureWorks grant application for a new flush restroom at McLean Teddy Bear Park. The total cost of the project is \$119,475. \$79,000 is available for Allen County through the NatureWorks Grant. The Park District would need to match 34% with a breakdown as follows: NatureWorks Grant - 66% - \$78,854; Park District - 34% - \$40,621.

Resolution 6-2015 was presented authorizing the Director-Secretary of the Park District to submit an application for a NatureWorks grant. Kevin Bruin moved that Resolution 6-2015 be accepted as presented. Bob Antibus seconded and the motion passed.

Other

Kevin Bruin reported the following:

- A meeting to discuss the Ford Work Day is scheduled for April 24th at 9:30 a.m. The Ford Work Day is scheduled for Friday, May 8 at 8 a.m. There will be approximately 20-30 Ford employees and 10 LCC students. Vince Sarno reported that the projects will consist of staining the Bandshell and working in the gardens at the Park District office.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12 at 8 a.m.

A discussion took place regarding the Nancy Steiner Internship Program. Kevin Haver reported that the students interviewed for the internship program aren't interested in college credit because it requires paying tuition. Funding for the internship position requires an endowment of approximately \$100,000 to be in place. Currently there is approximately \$7400 in donations. Bob Antibus likes the concept but it may need to be modified. Kevin Bruin would like to set-up a meeting with David Steiner to discuss any thoughts or ideas he may have. A lunch meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday, May 12th at Old City Prime with a backup date of May 13th.

With no further business, Kevin Bruin made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 a.m. Bob Antibus seconded. The motion passed.

Cathy Ahman
Chairman

Kevin L. Haver
Director-Secretary