

Regular Board Meeting – July 22, 2020

Resolution Summary

Resolution	Description	Byers	Dalton	Doneghy	Luetke	Savage	
Resolution No. 37-20	Ratification of Schedule of Payables			Motioned	2 nd		Approved
Resolution No. 38-20	Request Approval to Declare Equipment Surplus		2 nd		Motioned		Approved
Resolution No. 39-20	Approval of Project Partner Agreement with The Nature Conservancy	2 nd	Motioned				Approved
Resolution No. 40-20	Contract Approval, Glass City Phase 2 Preliminary Engineering & Permitting Professional Services, SmithGroup	Motioned		2 nd			Approved
Resolution No. 41-20	Resolution of Necessity			Motioned	2 nd		Approved
Resolution No. 42-20	Resolution to Proceed		2 nd		Motioned		Approved

The mission of Metroparks of the Toledo Area is to conserve the region's natural resources by creating, developing, improving, protecting, and promoting clean, safe, and natural parks and open spaces for the benefit, enjoyment, education, and general welfare of the public.



Board Minutes

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020, 8:30 A.M.

WARD PAVILION – LIVE STREAM

Commissioners Present:

Scott Savage, President
Fritz Byers, Vice President
Lera Doneghy, Vice President
Molly Luetke, Officer
Kevin Dalton, Officer

Dave Zenk, Executive Director

Dave Smigelski, Legal Counsel

Staff Present: Matt Cleland, Jill Molnar, Emily Ziegler, Joe Fausnaugh, Matt Killam, Scott Carpenter, Tim Schetter, and Bethany Sattler.

1. NON-RESOLUTION BOARD ITEMS

President Scott Savage called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

Mr. Savage led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Kevin Dalton made a motion to approve the consent agenda and for the disposition of the minutes for the regular Board meeting held on June 17, 2020. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fritz Byers and approved.

3. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT FOR REVIEW

A. Matt Cleland, Deputy Director & Treasurer – Treasurer's Report

Mr. Matt Cleland provided an overview of the Treasurer's Report. The six-month report as of June 2020 was tracking as expected with the exception of earned revenue due to the effects of the pandemic. He anticipates those effects will be contained within the 2020 budget year as a result of Metroparks' contingency planning.

Mr. Byers inquired into the current projections for intergovernmental transfers over the course of the rest of the year. Mr. Cleland reported that this revenue consists of homestead rollback revenue subsidized through the State. This typically would be received in March, but this year Metroparks received it in May. The other source is local

government funds, which are budgeted at about \$600,000.00 per year. While the initial dispersals were smaller than expected, as of July 2020 the dispersals have increased to an expected level.

Mr. Savage inquired into the lower-than-expected donated funds in the General Fund. Mr. Cleland reported that those funds are now recorded in the Buckeye Fund instead.

4. BOARD APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS, DEEDS, AGREEMENTS, ETC.

- A. Mrs. Lera Doneghy offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Ms. Molly Luetke:

Resolution No. 37-20 – Ratification of Schedule of Payables

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- B. Ms. Luetke offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Dalton:

Resolution No. 38-20 – Request Approval to Declare Equipment Surplus

Mr. Joe Fausnaugh explained that this resolution would allow for the sale or trade-in of equipment no longer useful to the park district. The majority of the equipment this year consists of older park vehicles which would be sold at auction.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- C. Mr. Dalton offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Byers:

Resolution No. 39-20 – Approval of Project Partner Agreement with the Nature Conservancy

Mr. Tim Schetter explained that this resolution would continue Metroparks' collaboration with the Nature Conservancy for conservation projects in the Oak Openings region, including wetland restorations. This partnership allows Metroparks to restore and preserve land without spending park district funds.

Mr. Byers inquired into how the partnership with the Nature Conservancy came to exist. Mr. Schetter explained that the Nature Conservancy began the conservation work in the Oak Openings region; once Metroparks became more robust in conservation work, a partnership developed through the Green Ribbon Initiative. Mr. Byers further commented that the level of trust placed in Metroparks by the international Nature Conservancy is a great tribute to Metroparks' work in the conservation realm.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- D. Mr. Byers offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mrs. Doneghy:

Resolution No. 40-20 – Contract Approval, Glass City Phase 2 Preliminary Engineering & Permitting Professional Services, SmithGroup

Ms. Emily Ziegler explained that the contract would advance the schematics and planning for Phase 2 of Glass City Metropark with SmithGroup, which has been part of the planning through Phase 1. This contract would include preliminary planning for the entirety of Phase 2, including the water play elements and ice skating ribbon. Metroparks has received funds to support this phase already, including a \$100,000.00 grant from the

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (“NOAA”) and a \$100,000.00 grant from the Greater Toledo Community Foundation.

Mr. Byers inquired about the overall cost breakdowns. Ms. Ziegler explained that about ten percent (10%) of the budget involves the planning costs. The overall site planning portion of the budget is a bit lower at around seven or eight percent (7-8%). Economies of scale are anticipated to lower many of the planning costs, with the exception of architecture.

Mr. Savage highlighted the partnership with the Greater Toledo Community Foundation and expressed gratitude on behalf of Metroparks.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- E. Mrs. Doneghy offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Ms. Luetke:

Resolution No. 41-20 – Resolution of Necessity

Mr. Savage introduced the next resolutions and commented on the three (3) large areas the levy would support: improvements across the park district; extension of the Glass City Metropark and Riverwalk; and bolstering the economy of the region with additional jobs and private funding. The taxpayers are being asked to support only a portion of the total cost of these projects. Mr. Savage expressed the Board’s gratitude to the County Auditor for assisting in certifying the forthcoming resolutions.

This resolution allows for the Board to present the addition of a levy on the November 2020 ballot.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

Ms. Chrys Peterson introduced the chairs of the Citizens for Metroparks campaign committee who are proud to support the levy campaign. Ms. Peterson, Mr. Matt Yarder, Mr. Ray Wood, and Rep. Marcy Kaptur are the campaign chairs. Ms. Peterson commented on her experience with Metroparks and the incredible asset the park district is to the Toledo area. She explained that Glass City Metroparks is poised to become one of the largest assets to the community, preserving essential land while providing an economic boon to the region. The levy is an integral piece to ensuring this project is completed for the community. Ms. Peterson stated that Metroparks has proven its worth and necessity in the community, being one of the only refuges for people during the ongoing pandemic. Recent studies indicate that at least ninety percent (90%) of Lucas County residents have visited a Metropark at some point over the past few months. This campaign and project lay the foundation for great benefits for generations to come and would set the region up for incredible growth. Ms. Peterson explained that this is the right time and right project to truly take Toledo to the next level in esteem among all cities in the country. Ms. Peterson thanked Metroparks’ staff and the Board of Park Commissioners for their efforts to ensure the vision of Metroparks continues to become a reality.

A video message from Mr. Yarder was shared, in which he explained his commitment to the levy campaign and why he chose to become a campaign chair. Mr. Yarder stated that, in his role as a local business owner, the Glass City Metropark project will make it easier to recruit and retain talent. For every one (1) dollar the levy generates, an additional ten (10) would generate from private development, amounting to over a billion dollars in economic development for the region.

Mr. Wood, of the NAACP, commented on his experiences in the Toledo area with Metroparks. As a child, his parents encouraged him to utilize the parks. He has been a lifelong user of Metroparks and city parks, and continues to utilize Metroparks now with this family. Metroparks made a promise to place a park within five (5) miles of every Lucas County resident; that promise will be fulfilled this year with the opening of Manhattan

Marsh. The Metroparks promise is more of a philosophy, including ensuring that all Metroparks are maintained at a high standard. Mr. Wood commented that his experience with Metroparks is that the agency keeps its promises and is committed to the community. He explained that the levy is a way for the community to invest in itself and ensure that the Metroparks are maintained for all to enjoy for generations.

F. Ms. Luetke offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Dalton:

Resolution No. 42-20 – Resolution to Proceed

This resolution officially places the operation levy on the November ballot to support the maintenance and improvements of all Metroparks, along with supporting the construction of the new Glass City Metropark.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

5. BOARD INITIATED TOPICS AND DISCUSSIONS


Mrs. Doneghy commented on a recent tour she took of the Glass City Metropark site and her excitement about the project and the progress already accomplished.

Ms. Luetke commented that Metroparks is able to continuously keep its promises due to the support it receives from the community. It is a privilege to have such high expectations from the community, and Metroparks is more than prepared to continue to meet and exceed those expectations.

With no further business or action to be taken, Mr. Dalton made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:24 a.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Doneghy and approved.



Scott Savage, President

Attest: 

Dave Zenk, Executive Director

DDZ/bas
07/22/20