

Regular Board Meeting – February 24, 2016

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Byers</b>	<b>Doneghy</b>	<b>Savage</b>	
<b>Resolution No. 09-16</b>	Approval to request funding through the Clean Ohio Trails Fund	Motioned	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Approved
<b>Resolution No. 10-16</b>	Approval to Apply for Clean Ohio Funds	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Motioned		Approved
<b>Resolution No. 11-16</b>	Ratify Approval/Award & Participation in the ODNR 2016 Boating Safety Education Program	Motioned	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Approved
<b>Resolution No. 12-16</b>	Schedule of Payables	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Motioned		Approved
<b>Resolution No. 13-16</b>	Ratify Amendment/Supplement to the 2016 Appropriations Measure – General Funds GLRI IV – TNC (US EPA), France Stone and Andersons Donations	Motioned	2 <sup>nd</sup>		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, FEBRUARY 24, 2016, 8:30 A.M.**  
**WARD PAVILION – WILDWOOD METROPARK PRESERVE**

### Commissioners Present:

Scott Savage, President  
Fritz Byers, Vice President  
Lera Doneghy, Vice President

Stephen W. Madewell, Executive Director  
David Smigelski, Legal Counsel

Staff present: Dave Zenk, Matt Cleland, Jill Molnar, Tim Schetter, Joe Fausnaugh, Cathy Marinelli, Denise Johnson and Robin Brown.

### 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. Savage stated there are some minor changes to the consent agenda one of which is that the discussion of the Vision Statement has been postponed to the March 23, 2016 board meeting; the other items are the correction of a few minor typographical errors to the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. With these changes, Mr. Fritz Byers made a motion for approval of items which include the disposition of the corrected minutes for the regular board meeting held on January 27, 2016, and the special board meeting held on February 11, 2016. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Lera Doneghy and approved.

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

A. Vision Statement Discussion – postponed until the March 23, 2016 board meeting.

B. Dr. Tim Schetter, Director of Natural Resources – Howard Marsh Metropark

Dr. Schetter provided an update regarding the progress of Howard Marsh Metropark project. The summary of the plan restated was presented and discussed in detail at an earlier public meeting. The main focus of the presentation today was to provide project revisions due to circumstances beyond our control and the breakdown of the costs.

Mr. Matt Cleland stated that although a good portion of the project costs will be from outside resources, we need to be able to certify availability of funds for all of the costs. The Land Acquisition and Development fund and its cash flows through 2020 were discussed.

Dr. Schetter confirmed the ODNR has committed to an additional \$1M, with the contingency of state controlling board approval this summer.

Mr. Byers inquired as to when the optimal time to take this out to bid will be. Mr. Jon Zvanovec responded that right now is when we should be going out to bid. The goal is to have this project completed by winter of 2017.

Mr. Savage inquired to the tracking of the NOAA funds, will it actually be cash? Mr. Cleland responded that the books will reflect an expense and payment, but no actual cash will be received as they are paid directly to the vendor. Additionally, the engineering costs that have already been directly paid are not a part of the currently reflected amount.

C. Matt Cleland, Director of Finance/Treasurer

Mr. Cleland indicated that he updated the multi-year forecast report to reflect current fund balances.

Mr. Byers had a question regarding Attachment A. Mr. Cleland responded that he updated the variance column to indicate the percent variance from budget to actual.

On the quarterly report for the general operating fund Mr. Cleland stated that he created 2016 quarterly budget amounts by distributing 2016 annual budget amounts based upon actual 2015 cash flows

Mr. Savage asked if the variance in interest payments from 2015 through 2017 was a function of timing of the recording of transactions. Mr. Cleland responded in the affirmative. Mr. Savage indicated that he would like to have a discussion in the future regarding Metroparks investment strategy.

BOARD APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS, DEEDS, AGREEMENTS, ETC.

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

Resolution No. 09-16 – Approval to request funding through the Clean Ohio Trails Fund

Mr. Dave Zenk stated that the Board approved a similar resolution at the previous board meeting; however this resolution reflects an increase to the dollar amount requested.

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

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

Resolution No. 10-16 – Approval to Apply for Clean Ohio Funds

Dr. Schetter stated this is a routine resolution that is performed on a yearly basis. This provides Mr. Steve Madewell authorization and approval to proceed with the application process.

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

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

Resolution No. 11-16 – Ratify Approval/Award & Participation in the ODNR 2016 Boating Safety Education Program

Mr. Cleland stated that this is a grant we received last year and this year it will provide some additional funds

for expenditures including supplies and costs for safety training.

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

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

Resolution No. 12-16 – Schedule of Payables

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

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

Resolution No. 13-16 – Ratify Amendment/Supplement to the 2016 Appropriations Measure – General Funds  
GLRI IV – TNC (US EPA), France Stone and Andersons Donations

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

Mr. Byers made a motion that the current officers of the Board of Park Commissioners are to be re-elected; Mr. Savage as President, Mrs. Doneghy as Vice-President and Mr. Byers also as Vice President. Mrs. Doneghy seconded the motion, and Mr. Savage approved.

#### 4. PUBLIC ISSUES

Roger Hine line stated that the public were lied to. He went on to explain that he was told there would be no more killing of deer and he stated that more deer were killed. He indicated that he is not getting any answers as to the number of the deer killed and disposed.

Dr. Schetter responded that what was indicated at the Swanton Township meeting was that Metroparks would not proceed with any additional culling until another aerial study had been conducted. That study has been conducted. In total, there were 195 deer culled, of which 1 deer was infected and could not be processed. A total of 6,700 lbs. of meat was processed and donated to three different local charities. Marksmen were used as indicated in the article written by Matt Markey published in The Toledo Blade. The ODNR permit stated that up to 50 antlered deer could be taken, but we only took nine antlered deer. The goal was to take as many does as possible.

Nancy Young stated that she looked at the figures and 75% of the deer between Wildwood and Oak Openings had been slaughtered. She went on to state that an infrared count is only a current count. Ms. Young stated that it looks like we killed the deer to please Ottawa Hills. She stated that none of the other communities could vote regarding the deer cull.

Mr. Savage responded that these items were covered in the previous board meeting. Mr. Madewell stated that Metroparks decision had nothing to do with Ottawa Hills. As far as the infrared count, we utilized other methods of counts as well. After the most recent infrared count in January, no additional deer were removed from Wildwood. The numbers at Oak Openings were still extremely high. Metroparks worked within its permits and guidelines from the ODNR. We had no disruption with our park visitation.

Nancy inquired as to why Ottawa Hills could vote and citizens could not for Metroparks.

Mr. Madewell responded that Ottawa Hills is a village which operates as a separate political entity from the Park District. Metroparks functions as a political subdivision of the state and must follow the governing statutes provided in the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Byers responded that we, the Board of Park Commissioners, are guided

by the laws set forth by the Ohio General Assembly. The Commissioners of the Park District are appointed by the probate court. And, as previously mentioned in the prior meeting, if any of the guests feel any type of laws were broken, to please reach out to Metroparks' legal counsel. Additionally, Mr. Byers stated that if any of the guests are concerned with the current laws, the remedy is to take their issues to their legislators.

Ms. Young also stated that we spent an exorbitant amount of money on the deer cull. Mr. Savage responded that Metroparks was authorized to spend up to \$70,000, and we anticipate actual spending under \$20,000.

Ms. Young indicated that the article in The Toledo Blade quoted different deer numbers than what Metroparks has quoted. Mr. Madewell responded that the article mentioned was referring to Ottawa Hills.

Mr. Rick Baum spoke to the board on behalf of the Northwest Ohio Tobacco Coalition. This coalition represents the folks behind the Clean Indoor Air Act. He would like to urge the board to adopt a resolution to join the other 1200 public agencies that have banned smoking in their public parks. Besides the obvious reason for a healthier environment, it would also aid in decreased litter as well as follow Metroparks' motto; clean, safe natural. He would encourage Metroparks to review smoking near buildings, playgrounds around children and perhaps define locations where people could smoke as an alternative.

Mr. Madewell stated that he has had some conversation with Mr. Baum prior to this meeting and responded that there are some places where a smoking ban could be addressed. He also stated that while it may be difficult to enforce a widespread smoking ban in our 12,000 plus acres, we could certainly look at some sort of policy to address specific areas. Chief Joe Fausnaugh indicated that he has been doing research and there is a trend across the nation in regards to no smoking in parks. Mr. Madewell responded that we will consider it further. Mr. Savage said he appreciates Mr. Baum bringing this to Metroparks' attention and will take it under serious consideration as well as comparing it to our current policies.

Lindsay Rodenhauer stated that in Delaware county most of the parks are smoke-free and mostly tobacco free. They operate under a self-enforcement plan, which the community assists with enforcing.

Mr. Madewell stated that he intends to work with Chief Fausnaugh on this matter. Based on rules and regulations that public park districts must follow, an operational rule could possibly be developed that would not require further action of the Board.

Mike Emm stated that Metroparks previously discussed advertising the deer cull in papers; however, there was nothing in the local paper that covers 5 townships in the Swanton area. He stated that a newspaper called The Key Shoppers News is his local newspaper. He also stated that ODNR will be hosting an open house on March 5, 2016 in Findlay and strongly suggests Metroparks attend. The event will cover the urban deer tag. Mr. Emm stated that because urban tags have been eliminated the deer herd is not being properly managed.

Mr. Savage responded that we're committed to getting the message out and we are not sure if there are reporters for The Key Shoppers News, but we try to be as transparent as possible.

Mr. Emm also stated that this is the first time he has seen non-hunters and hunters come together. Mr. Madewell responded that while that is true, they all have different agendas. The anti-hunters don't want the deer removed from the parks and the hunters want the opportunity to actually hunt. Mr. Emm asked Metroparks to consider a lottery for the hunters in the future. Dr. Schetter stated such a lottery exists; regarding the controlled archery program. Over the past three years, they were not removing enough of the deer through that program as we had hoped. This was the reason Metroparks had to perform the cull. Dr. Schetter's hope is that once the population is in control that the lottery hunts will be sufficient to maintain balance.

Mr. Savage ended the meeting by stating he has such a sense of pride in what this organization has done regarding the community rollout, the new brand, etc., and thanked the whole Metropark team.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:15 a.m. President Scott Savage made a motion to recess into executive session to consider the items that qualify for consideration in executive session. Mr. Savage stated that the purpose of the executive session was to discuss a matter of pending or imminent court action with legal counsel as well as to consider land acquisitions pursuant to ORC 121.22, (G) (2) and (3). Mr. Savage asked if there was any discussion and reported, under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22, a roll call vote on this motion is necessary. Ms. Jill Molnar advised the commissioners that as their names were called they should answer yes to enter meeting or those opposed answer no.

ROLL CALL

Mrs. Doneghy – Yes

Mr. Savage – Yes

Mr. Byers – Yes

Ms. Molnar reported upon roll call vote the motion passed and the Board recessed into executive session.

The Board exited executive session at 10:52 a.m. and commenced the open meeting.

No further business was conducted.

Mr. Byers made a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 10:59 a.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Doneghy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Savage, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen W. Madewell, Executive Director

SWM/kjm  
2/24/16