

September 7, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
Preservation Parks of Delaware County
2:00 PM Deer Haven Park

Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM, with Board members Glenn Marzluf, Chair; John Bader, Vice Chair; and Bruce Ruhl, Secretary. Staff included Mary Van Haaften, Executive Director; Rich Niccum, Deputy Director; Kyle Pace; Beth McCollam; Tyler Swartzlander; Chad Watkins, Matt Simpson; Liz Neroni; Chris Roshon; Tony Benishek; and Bonnie Houk. Public present: Vince Messerly, Stream and Wetlands Foundation.

Motion to approve Agenda: B. Ruhl made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; J. Bader seconded. All voted members aye. The motion passed.

Public Comments: None

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Format: J. Bader made a motion to approve the consent agenda format; B. Ruhl seconded. All voted aye. The motion passed.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of August 17, 2023, previous Board Minutes.
2. Resolution 2023-550 – To approve additional authorized credit card purchasers and to appoint a new Credit Card Compliance Officer.
3. Resolution 2023-551 – To approve Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor.
4. Resolution 2023-552 – To rescind the capital projects fund reestablished in Resolution #2021-492 and repay prior year advance for the remaining unencumbered funds to the General Fund in the amount of \$62,513.33, regarding funds for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for the cost of acquiring, constructing, and improving Ohio to Erie Trail projects.
5. Resolution 2023-553 – To Authorize the granting of an easement to Del-Co Water for property located at Perfect Creek Park.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: None

Approval of Consent Agenda: B. Ruhl moved to approve the consent agenda, J. Bader seconded, all members voted aye, with G. Marzluf abstaining from Item #5 due to a conflict of interest. The motion passed.

Financial Report and Ratification of Vouchers: J. Bader moved to approve the Financial Report and Ratification of Vouchers, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Human Resources Changes in Personnel: B. Ruhl moved to approve the Changes in Personnel Report, J. Bader seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Department Reports:

Naturalist L. Neroni reported that 8,634 people visited the summer exhibit at Shale Hollow Park. New birds (falcons) were rotated into the aviary for the fall months. She reported on the success of August programs including Music Under the Paper Moon at Gallant Farm, the always popular Perseid Meteor Shower Campout at Blues Creek Park, Little Adventurers at Gallant Farm, and the new night fishing programs offered by Park Police at Blues Creek.

Sergeant C. Watkins updated the board on the status of investigation into vandalism at the Emily Traphagen Park restroom.

Marketing Manager B. McCollam reported on the support the department is providing to the Preservation Parks Foundation including social media posts for an upcoming fundraiser at City BBQ and the Foundation's new informational brochure.

Natural Resources Manager C. Roshon shared photos from the Emily Traphagen wetland one year after construction. Invasives species control continues at McCammon Creek, Shale Hollow, Emily Traphagen, and other sites.

Park Operations Manager K. Pace reported on the progress of trail work at McCammon Creek Park north of Orange Road. The trail will open to the public later this year.

Sr. Park Planner M. Simpson shared photos of the completed entrance drive and parking lot at McCammon Creek Park near the Bicentennial Barn. The parking area will open once trails and other amenities are completed in 2025.

Public Comments: None

Other Business

1. Perfect Creek Preliminary Master Plan – Sr. Planner M. Simpson provided the Board with an update on the draft master plan for Perfect Creek Park.
2. Mitigation Partnership Proposal – Executive Director, M. VanHaaften introduced Vince Messerly, President of the Stream and Wetlands Foundation who presented a proposal for wetland mitigation at Perfect Creek Park, including 100 - 110 acres of wetland restoration between Old 3C Road and State Route 3.
3. Bicentennial Barn Plan Update – Sr. Planner M. Simpson shared updated design drawings by architect Schooley Caldwell. M. VanHaaften updated the board on potential naming opportunities proposed by the Preservation Parks Foundation including the main event hall, classrooms, etc. The board had no objection to moving forward with naming opportunities for barn donors.
4. Contract Award to Davey Resource Group for Invasive Species Management at Havener Property - Preservation Parks requested quotes for woody invasive species management within 24 acres of woodland at the Havener property. B Ruhl made the motion to award the contract to Davey Resource Group in the amount of \$32,250 with a contingency up to \$32,500. J. Bader seconded and all members voted aye. The motion passed.
5. Approve Delaware for Democracy Policy – Staff made a recommendation to the Board to adopt the Delaware County Commissioners' Delaware for Democracy program. B. Ruhl made the motion to adopt the Delaware for Democracy Policy, J. Bader seconded; all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Executive Session: B. Ruhl moved to go into executive session at 2:43 PM for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, J. Bader seconded. Roll call was taken; all members were present and all members voted aye. The motion passed.

The board returned to regular session at 3:00 PM and took the following action:

B. Ruhl moved to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate with the Stream and Wetlands Foundation in pursuing a mitigation project. J. Bader seconded; all members voted aye. The motion passed.

B. Ruhl moved to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application to the Clean Ohio Greenspace Fund through the Ohio Public Works Commission for property in Delaware County. J. Bader seconded; all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 10, 1:00 PM at Shale Hollow Park.

Adjournment: B. Ruhl moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:04 PM, J. Bader seconded; all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Van Haaften, Executive Director



Glenn Marzluf, Chair, Park Commissioner

