

June 20, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
Preservation Parks of Delaware County
2:00 PM Deer Haven Park

Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM, with Board members John Bader, Chair; Bruce Ruhl, Vice Chair; and Glenn Marzluf, Secretary present. Staff included Mary Van Haaften, Executive Director; Rich Niccum, Deputy Director; Chief Welch; Matt Simpson; Casey Smith; Chris Roshon; Beth McCollam; Craig Flockerzie; Tyler Swartzlander; Bonnie Houk; Emily Norris; Lisa Choy; and Lilla Dvoraczky. Public: Amy Tovar

Public Comments: None

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of May 23, 2024, Previous Board Minutes
2. Human Resources Changes in Personnel Report

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: None

Approval of Consent Agenda: G. Marzluf moved to approve the consent agenda, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.

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

Park Updates:

1. M. Van Haaften reported that the District has received a \$500,000 grant for renovation of the Bicentennial Barn at McCammon Creek Park from the State of Ohio's One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund.
2. C. Smith reported on the upcoming 50th Anniversary Adventures celebration at Deer Haven Park on Sunday, June 27 from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Department Reports:

Outdoor Connections Manager C. Smith announced that 500 people visited opening weekend of the *Far Out* Exhibit at Shale Hollow Park, which included a special visit from the Lunar Vette, highlighting the Apollo Moon missions.

Administrative Manager T. Swartzlander reported on his work to update the District's Purchasing Manual to be presented to the Board later in the meeting.

Human Resources Report (T. Benishek not present) - M. Van Haaften reported on seasonal employee orientation.

Chief Welch reported that reparations were made to the District by the subject that committed several acts of vandalism last summer at Traphagen Park. Fewer security issues have occurred so far in 2024 as compared to last year (e.g., doors locked, alarms set, etc.) thanks to the attentiveness of staff.

Marketing Manager B. McCollam shared photography of summer programs that were taken by seasonal Marketing Intern M. Cox.

Natural Resources Manager C. Roshon reported that staff assisted the Delaware General Health District with tick surveys in eleven parks. Specimens were sent to a lab for identification and testing.

Sr. Park Technician C. Flockerzie reported on Shale Hollow Park improvements including new stone steps to the creek, replacement of wooden columns on the McKay Lodge, and a new section of gravel trail.

Sr. Park Planner M. Simpson reported on Deer Haven parking lot lighting, the new restroom and braille trail at Hogback Ridge, Appalachian Ohio Alliance's approval of proposed trails in the conservation easement at Orchard Oaks Preserve; and completion of the H2Ohio grant at Perfect Creek Park.

Other Business:

1. Approval of Revisions to Preservation Parks' Purchasing Manual. Revisions included adjustments of purchasing levels, an increased threshold for competitive bidding requirements per ORC, and new staff training requirements. G. Marzluf moved to approve the recommended revisions, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
2. Resolution 2024-591 to Authorize a Contract with Strawser Paving Company for driveway and parking lot construction at McCammon Creek North in the amount of \$250,699.90. M. Simpson reported on bidding results for a new thirty car paved parking lot on Orange Road and recommended award to Strawser Paving Company. G. Marzluf moved to approve the resolution as presented, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
3. Resolution 2024-592 to Award a contract to the Impact Group for Strategic Planning Consulting in the amount of \$30,000.00. Staff requested an increase in the originally budgeted amount of \$10,000.00 for additional strategic planning services and upon review of various strategic planning consultants, recommended the Impact Group. B. Ruhl moved to approve the resolution as presented, G. Marzluf seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
4. Resolution 2024-593 to Authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Ohio Collaborative for Conservation to host one to two full-time AmeriCorps members for two years for a total amount up to \$20,000.00. G. Marzluf moved to approve the resolution as presented, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
3. Perfect Creek public comment summary. M. Simpson presented a summary of the public comments received so far, noting that comments were overwhelmingly positive. The majority of comments and questions included enthusiasm for the proposed trails, questions about the timeline for completion and opening of the park, and concerns regarding the proposed Park District Law Enforcement training facility. Staff continue to review comments and will take them into consideration as the final master plan is prepared.

Executive Session: B. Ruhl moved to go into executive session at 2:36 PM for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, G. Marzluf seconded. Roll call was taken; all members were present. All members voted aye. The motion passed.

The Board returned to regular session at 4:01 PM. No action was taken.

Next Board Meeting Date: Thursday, July 18, 1:00 PM at Deer Haven Park.

Adjournment: B. Ruhl moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 PM, G. Marzluf seconded; all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

for Richard E. Niccum Jr. Deputy Director
Mary Van Haften, Executive Director

John Bader
John Bader, Chair, Park Commissioner