

November 13, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
Preservation Parks of Delaware County
1:00 PM Deer Haven Park

Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM, with Board members John Bader, Chair; Bruce Ruhl, Vice Chair; and Glenn Marzluf, Secretary. Staff included Mary Van Haften, Director; Rich Niccum, Deputy Director; Matt Simpson; Casey Smith; Chris Roshon; Beth McCollam; Kyle Pace; Tony Benishek; Tyler Swartzlander; Bonnie Houk; Sgt. Watkins; Sgt. Elkins; and Chief Welch. Public Present: Amy Tovar.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of October 17, 2024, Previous Board Minutes
2. Human Resources Changes in Personnel Report
3. Resolution 2024-603 to Approve a Transfer of Appropriations
4. Approve purchases over \$50,000 in goods and services from specific vendors during 2024

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: None

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

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

Park Updates:

1. M. Van Haften reported that the park district closed on 17 acres of land along Alum Creek, expanding McCammon Creek Park to 248 acres.

Department Reports:

Outdoor Connections Manager C. Smith reported on recent events including Trailapalooza on the Ohio to Erie Trail with 150 attendees, Trick or Treat Trail with 700 attendees, and an author visit and bird hike with Kenn Kaufman in partnership with Friends of the Delaware Library, which attracted 100 participants. At Gallant Farm, the All About Apples program welcomed 175 attendees. C. Smith also reported that thirty antique school desks donated by Kathy Sandel for the Perfect Schoolhouse have been restored.

Administrative Manager T. Swartzlander reported that automatic gates at five parks will soon be operational, and the PowerDMS policy management platform was rolled out to staff in October.

Human Resources Manager T. Benishek highlighted a staff tour of Camp Lazarus and Seymour Woods State Nature Preserve. He also reported that fifteen staff participated in a disc golf try-it opportunity and announced a decrease in Anthem's health insurance renewal from 13.5% to 11%.

Chief Welch reported on warnings issued to two individuals at Blues Creek Park for racing and doing doughnuts, a citation for littering at Hickory Woods Park, and a recent arrest for drug possession at Sycamore Run Park. Officer Drown was commended for completing Crisis Intervention Training, and Sgt. Watkins was recognized for completing OPOTA New Chiefs training.

Marketing Manager B. McCollam reported on the new Winter Program Guide that will be available soon, and shared the Winter Letterbox booklet cover artwork, created by Marketing Specialist C. Saniel-Banrey.

Natural Resources Manager C. Roshon provided updates from the Olenangy Watershed Forum, which was attended by 65 people. As part of the conference, staff shared District watershed project updates and led a hike on the new loop trail at Sycamore Run Park.

the original barn while meeting the District's programming needs and keeping costs within budget.

Executive Session: B. Ruhl moved to go into executive session at 1:41 PM for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and compensation of employees, G. Marzluf seconded. Roll call was taken, and all members were present. All members voted aye. The motion passed.


The Board returned to regular session at 2:48 PM and took the following action:

1. G. Marzluf moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a purchase agreement in an amount up to \$750,000 for 25 acres in Porter Township. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
2. G. Marzluf moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a purchase agreement in an amount up to \$350,000 for 1.3 acres in Delaware Township. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
3. G. Marzluf moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute a project agreement with Stream + Wetlands Foundation for Perfect Creek Park. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
4. G. Marzluf moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute and record a conservation easement with Stream + Wetlands Foundation at Perfect Creek Park. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye.
5. G. Marzluf moved to approve Park District contributions to the Employee HSA as recommended: \$1,250 for single coverage, \$2,820 for Employee + Spouse coverage, \$2,165 for Employee + Child(ren) coverage, \$3,960 for Family coverage. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
6. G. Marzluf moved to adopt the pay matrix and market adjustments as presented, and a \$1.00 per hour increase for staff within pay grades A and B in 2025. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.
7. G. Marzluf moved to approve the creation of the following positions: Development Director, Construction Crew Leader, and Construction Technician. B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Next Board Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 19, 10:00 AM at Deer Haven Park

Adjournment: G. Marzluf moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 PM, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Van Haaften, Executive Director



John Bader, Chair, Park Commissioner