

October 21, 2025 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 Bruce Ruhl, Chair; Glenn Marzluf, Vice Chair; and John Bader, Secretary present. Staff included Mary Van Haaften, Director; Tyler Swartzlander, Deputy Director; Matt Simpson; Casey Smith; Chris Roshon; Beth McCollam; Kyle Pace; Tony Benishek; Carol Zimmerman; and Sgt. Watkins.

Public Present: Amy Tovar

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of September 25, 2025 Board Minutes
2. Human Resources Changes in Personnel Report
3. Approval of Declaration of Surplus Property
4. Resolution 2025 – 623 Approve New Authorized Credit Cardholder

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: None

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

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

Park Updates: M. Van Haaften recognized and congratulated G. Marzluf for receiving the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's *Leadership in Sustainability Award* in honor of his outstanding efforts to protect sustainable and safe drinking water resources in Delaware County and across the Central Ohio region.

Department Reports:

Development: C. Zimmerman reported on her onboarding activities, which included visiting parks, meeting with staff, and conducting one-on-one meetings with Foundation directors. She has begun streamlining the gift acknowledgment process and preparing the 2026 Development Plan.

Human Resources: T. Benishek reported on staffing changes in Park Police, including Chief Welch's retirement and the promotion of Sgt. Elkins to Deputy Chief, effective December 1.

Law Enforcement: Sgt. Watkins reported on several calls including a report of a contractor using narcotics and a medical emergency on the Ohio to Erie Trail.

Marketing & Communications: B. McCollam highlighted the District's digital marketing campaign and shared performance statistics from streaming service commercials. She also discussed Marketing's role in supporting the tracking of the Strategic Plan.

Natural Resources: C. Roshon reported that operations within the department are proceeding smoothly.

Outdoor Connections: C. Smith highlighted activities and displays at the Delaware County Fair. The Volunteer Appreciation dinner, held at Gallant Woods, recognized Volunteer of the Year Roger Allen and Gallant Farm Volunteer of the Year Amy Russell.

Park Operations: K. Pace provided updates on the construction of a three-sided storage barn at Gallant Farm and highlighted an Eagle Scout project involving the construction of 20 traffic counter boxes.

Planning & Construction: M. Simpson reported on the progress of several projects, including the Bicentennial Barn, the McCammon Creek Park East parking lot and entrance, and the Perfect Creek Park

wetland restoration. He also noted upcoming work at the Camp Lazarus property and the Open House scheduled for November 5, 2025.

Public Comment: None

Other Business:

1. *Naming Policy Guidelines and Procedures:* M. Van Haaften presented and discussed the proposed policy outlining procedures for naming opportunities in connection with gift giving. The Board requested revisions to clarify the duration of naming rights for different types of assets, including land. Staff will revise the policy and present it for Board consideration at a future meeting.

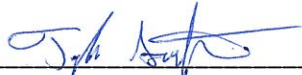
Executive Session: G. Marzluf moved to go into executive session at 1:40 PM for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel. J. Bader seconded. Roll call was taken, and all members were present. All members voted aye. The motion passed.

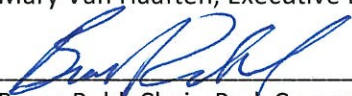
The Board returned to regular session at 1:58 PM. No action was taken.

Next Board Meeting Date: A regular meeting will be held at 1:00 PM on November 17, 2025 at Deer Haven Park.

Adjournment: G. Marzluf moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:03 PM, B. Ruhl seconded, all members voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,


for Mary Van Haaften, Executive Director


Bruce Ruhl, Chair, Park Commissioner