

February 19, 2026 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; Glenn Marzluf, Vice Chair; and John Bader, Secretary, present. B. Ruhl was absent.

Staff present included Mary Van Haaften, Executive Director; Tyler Swartzlander, Deputy Director; Beth McCollam; Kyle Pace; Bonnie Houk; Tony Benishek; Carol Zimmerman; Chief Watkins; Matt Simpson; Chris Roshon; Rich Niccum.

**Public Present:** Amy Tovar

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of January 15, 2026 Board Minutes
2. Human Resources Changes in Personnel Report
3. Accepting an unrestricted donation of \$3,279.79 from the Gerald R. Vlasak Charitable Trust
4. Accepting \$26,723.63 restricted donation from the Preservation Parks Foundation for Perfect Schoolhouse Restoration (\$20,600), land acquisition (\$5,000), native seedlings (\$333), Blues Creek Park (\$540.63), and Hickory Woods Park (\$250)
5. Resolution 2026-635 to Approve a Then and Now Certification

**Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:** None

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

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

**Park Updates:** M. Van Haaften reported the following updates:

1. The Park District closed on 3.5 acres along Bunty Station Rd. to expand Deer Haven North.
2. The Park District was awarded the Ohio Park and Recreation Association's Governor's award for the Braille Trail at Hogback Ridge Park. This award recognizes the project or program that has had the most significant impact on quality of life in Ohio.
3. The Park District received the Quality of Life Award from the Delaware Chamber of Commerce.

**Department Reports:**

*Development:* C. Zimmerman reported she is continuing onboarding with Donor Perfect. The Foundation has hired a bookkeeper. They are also continuing work on the Naming Policy. She also reported she has joined Delaware Rotary.

*Education:* C. Smith reported on the programs that were offered last month including; the New Years Day hike, chess club, and yoga in the Granary at Gallant Farm.

*Human Resources:* T. Benishek shared that Liz Neroni was promoted to Senior Naturalist and Amanda Jones was hired as the Fiscal Assistant. He also reported that the Senior Park Tech II interviews are complete.

*Law Enforcement:* Chief Watkins reported that officers arrested an individual at Hickory Woods Park for Improper Handling of a Firearm.

*Marketing & Communications:* B. McCollam reported they assisted Ohio Parks and Recreation with the filming of the Braille Trail for the Governor's Award nomination.

*Natural Resources:* C. Roshon reported they will be starting prescribed burns next month.

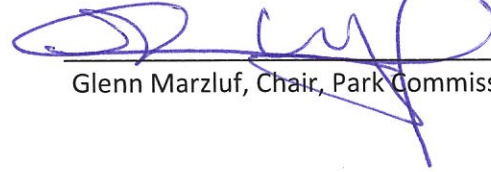
**Adjournment:** J. Bader moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:56 PM, G. Marzluf seconded, all members present voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mary Van Haften, Executive Director



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Glenn Marzluf, Chair, Park Commissioner