

Minutes of the 948<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held at 3:03 pm on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at the Millstone Shelter in Rocky Fork Metro Park, 7180 East Walnut Street, Westerville, Ohio 43081

### **Present**

Commissioners: Mr. Alex, Mr. Hadden, Mr. McCue

Staff: Mr. Berisford, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Eutsey, Mr. Laughbaum, Mr. Kaderly, Mr. Kaysnik, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Moloney, Mr. Peck, Mr. Saul, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Stiles, Ms. Telfer, Ms. Willer

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: None

Mr. McCue asked if all of the notice requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules of the Board regarding open meetings had been met. Mr. Moloney confirmed that all of those requirements and rules had been met.

### **Minutes of the August 20, 2024 Board Meeting**

Mr. Alex made a motion to approve the minutes of the August, 2024 Board Meeting. Mr. Hadden seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Disbursement Resolution No. 6190**

Mr. Alex moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the August 2024 invoices. Mr. Hadden seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 6190 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Administration**

Mr. Moloney praised Keep Columbus Beautiful for hosting community clean ups, with 600 people participating. 15 tons of trash was removed from the Scioto River near Great Southern, Three Creeks, and Scioto Grove Metro Parks.

The Friends of Metro Parks Gala will be held on September 27 on the Canopy Walk at Blacklick Woods Metro Park.

#### **Operations**

Mr. Peck introduced Heather Edwards and Brett Berisford, managers of Blendon Woods and Rocky Fork. Ms. Edwards stated that it was busy at Blendon Woods, with the installation of a mile-long water line off State Route 161 to feed the maintenance and Nature Center compounds. Workers are 75% finished laying pipe. The all-inclusive playground will be finished tomorrow, with over 20,000 bolts that need to be tightened.

A meeting with the community will be held on September 18 to discuss the different elements of the playground.

Over 7,000 people participated in Scioto Fest at Scioto Audubon and over 10,000 people and 7,000 dogs participated in Bark Bash at Prairie Oaks.

Due to the ongoing drought conditions across the state, the State Fire Marshal has ordered a ban on open burning, which means all grills and open fire pits within the parks cannot be used until further notice.

The Blacklick Woods Golf Course breezeway project is still slowly going. It was initially projected to be finished before Memorial Day.

### **Finance**

Mr. McGivern provided an update on the budget. Revenue side has leveled off. 75% of revenue comes from property taxes. The last few years have been helped by reservations, the golf course, and interest rates. We are still in a good spot for now.

### **Human Resources**

Ms. Telfer provided an update from the job fair earlier this month. It was very successful, with 99 people through the door. HR is processing the applicants now and will reach out with next steps to viable applicants. With the success of our job fair, we will be attending outside job fairs at Columbus City Schools and OSU. Mr. Moloney was impressed with the amount of people who attended the fair, noting that it spoke to the kind of work environment we provide. Ms. Telfer noted that Santa has not responded to any emails to attend our annual Christmas party. Mr. Alex requested a motion to bring in the Grinch.

### **Resolutions**

**#6191 ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVY CERTIFYING AS SUCH TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

The Board approved the amounts and rates determined by the budget commission.

**#6192 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE CONRAD FAMILY TRUST FOR PARK LAND AT PICKERINGTON PONDS METRO PARK, FRANKLIN COUNTY**

The Board approved the purchase of approximately 11 acres in Madison Township, owned by the Conrad Family.

**#6193 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR PARKING LOT PAVING IMPROVEMENTS AT QUARRY TRAILS METRO PARK UTILIZING THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

The Board approved entering into a contract with Kokosing Construction Company, Inc. for \$178,101.50.

**#6186 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR REFORESTATION PLANTINGS AT BATTELLE DARBY CREEK METRO PARK**

Mr. Alex moved to place this resolution back on the table, as it was removed from the agenda at last month's board meeting. The Board then approved entering into a contract with Dilley's Excavating & Demolition LLC for \$174,000.

**Other Business**

None.

**Adjournment**

The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by the Board of Park  
Commissioners:

  
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Tim Moloney, Executive Director

  
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Chair

