

Regular Board Meeting – September 23, 2020

Resolution Summary

Resolution	Description	Byers	Dalton	Doneghy	Luetke	Savage	
Resolution No. 53-20	Ratification of Schedule of Payables		Motioned		2 nd		Approved
Resolution No. 54-20	Approval of Supplement and Amendment of the 2020 Certificate of Estimated Resources and Appropriations Measure	2 nd			Motioned		Approved
Resolution No. 55-20	Designation of Law Enforcement Personnel	Motioned		2 nd			Approved
Resolution No. 56-20	Contract Approval, Farnsworth Playground Restroom Facility, Metroparks Toledo		2 nd	Motioned			Approved
Resolution No. 57-20	Authorization to Request Funding Through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency		Motioned		2 nd		Approved
Resolution No. 58-20	Authorization to Request Funding Through the France Stone Foundation	2 nd			Motioned		Approved
Resolution No. 59-20	Ratification of Contract for Glass City Metropark Furnishings	Motioned		2 nd			Approved

The mission of Metroparks of the Toledo Area is to conserve the region’s natural resources by creating, developing, improving, protecting, and promoting clean, safe, and natural parks and open spaces for the benefit, enjoyment, education, and general welfare of the public.



Board Minutes

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020, 8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE CENTER AT TOLEDO BOTANICAL GARDEN – LIVE STREAM

Commissioners Present:

Scott Savage, President
Fritz Byers, Vice President
Lera Doneghy, Vice President
Molly Luetke, Officer
Kevin Dalton, Officer

Dave Zenk, Executive Director

Staff Present: Matt Cleland, Jill Molnar, Emily Ziegler, Joe Fausnaugh, Matt Killam, Scott Carpenter, Carrie Alexander, Allen Gallant, Stacey Clink, Wendy Garczynski, Bethany Sattler

1. NON-RESOLUTION BOARD ITEMS

President Scott Savage called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

Mr. Savage led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Lera Doneghy made a motion to approve the consent agenda and for the disposition of the minutes for the regular Board meeting held on August 19, 2020. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fritz Byers and approved.

Mr. Savage commented on the positive attitude of the Metroparks leadership and staff in spite of this year’s challenges with the global pandemic, and commended them for continuing to advance the Mission and Vision of Metroparks. He expressed his gratitude for the Metroparks staff on behalf of the entire Board in a difficult year for everyone.

3. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT FOR REVIEW

A. Promises Kept – Matt Killam – Chief of Community Outreach & Experiences; Joe Fausnaugh – Chief of Operations

Mr. Joe Fausnaugh reviewed the history of Metroparks’ operations at Toledo Botanical Garden (“TBG”). In

2017, Metroparks began operating TBG, and in 2018 it assumed ownership of the park. Since that time, over \$1 million has been invested in TBG for upgrades and maintenance. A public survey was conducted to determine the desire for additional features. Most of the features deemed desirable were delivered, with the remaining items currently in progress. Metroparks' first priority after assuming operations was updating the infrastructure at TBG, including updating the Crosby Conference Center, updating signage, replacing walkways in poor condition, and providing a new office space for the OSU Extension Office.

Metroparks' next major project on the TBG property was to fulfill the promise to build a portion of the Children's Discovery Trail, the Secret Forest, which opened in 2019. Funds previously were raised for this project, and Metroparks followed through with completing the project and utilized those funds for their intended purpose.

Another major project Metroparks completed was the Doneghy Inclusive Garden, which opened in July 2020. This garden is a place for everyone to enjoy gardening and engage in the gardens, with components to appeal to all of the senses.

Mr. Matt Killam shared his gratitude for the staff and former board members at TBG who helped make the park what it is today. The programming implemented at TBG since Metroparks has assumed operations has been successful in steadily increasing visitation at the park. Jazz in the Garden and the Crosby Festival of the Arts previously were the largest draw for visitors to TBG. Additional programming has provided new reasons for people to visit the park. For 2020, Jazz in the Garden occurred as a virtual event with weekly concerts broadcast publicly, allowing the event to reach a wider audience.

Metroparks' objectives when assuming operations of TBG were to increase visitation through new features, programming, and marketing to provide more reasons for people to visit, along with improving the horticultural integrity of the site and infrastructure. Mr. Matt Killam reported that visitation has increased, and Metroparks continues to develop additional programming.

Mrs. Doneghy expressed her gratitude for the work completed at TBG, especially the new Doneghy Inclusive Garden, providing access to the entire community.

B. Matt Cleland, Deputy Director & Treasurer – Treasurer's Report

Mr. Matt Cleland introduced the newest finance staff member, Ms. Stacey Clink. Mr. Cleland indicated that the financials were all tracking as expected.

Mr. Byers inquired whether the savings on staff salaries and benefits was tracking as expected through the end of the year. Mr. Cleland indicated that it is estimated that both should be slightly under budget by year's end, mostly due to unfilled positions and turnover providing some savings. Additionally, a delay in hiring seasonal workers due to COVID-19 provided some salary savings.

Mr. Byers expressed that the most important insight from the financials is that revenue is incredibly close to the estimated amounts and that expenses are tracking below budget due to responsible spending.

Mrs. Doneghy inquired into an expenditure on the Then and Now Report which was significantly delayed in spending. Mr. Cleland shared that it was related to a staff training opportunity which was not paid on time due to confusion between two departments as the training was paid by a department other than the department in which the employee works.

4. BOARD APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS, DEEDS, AGREEMENTS, ETC.

- A. Mr. Kevin Dalton offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Ms. Molly Luetke:

Resolution No. 53-20 – Ratification of Schedule of Payables

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- B. Ms. Luetke offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Byers:

Resolution No. 54-20 – Approval of Supplement and Amendment of the 2020 Certificate of Estimated Resources and Appropriations Measure

Mr. Cleland indicated that these are related to the Clean Ohio Funds which are being utilized for Glass City Metropark development.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- C. Mr. Byers offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mrs. Doneghy:

Resolution No. 55-20 – Designation of Law Enforcement Personnel

Mr. Fausnaugh shared that this will designate Ms. Cassidy Lehman as a Metroparks Ranger. She comes with excellent law enforcement and customer service experience.

Mr. Savage expressed his gratitude and pride for the Metroparks Rangers, especially in recent weeks when they have been called upon heavily to serve throughout the community.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- D. Mrs. Doneghy offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Dalton:

Resolution No. 56-20 – Contract Approval, Farnsworth Playground Restroom Facility, Metroparks Toledo

Mr. Fausnaugh indicated that this will install a standard precast restroom near the playground and kayak launch at Farnsworth Metropark. This will upgrade the amenities at that site.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- E. Mr. Dalton offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Ms. Luetke:

Resolution No. 57-20 – Authorization to Request Funding Through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Allen Gallant indicated that this funding results from a legal settlement through Volkswagen, encouraging the usage of electric vehicle charging stations. This funding will provide up to \$15,000.00 to install charging stations at Glass City Metropark. It is expected that this will be a one-time funding opportunity.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- F. Ms. Luetke offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Byers:

Resolution No. 58-20 – Authorization to Request Funding Through the France Stone Foundation

Mr. Gallant indicated that this will provide funding to install an ADA accessible kayak launch at Glass City Metropark. The grant amount would be \$50,000.00, which would cover a significant portion of the costs

associated with this project.

Mr. Byers inquired into the Metroparks and community history with the France Stone Foundation. Mr. Gallant indicated that this project fits well with the priorities of the Foundation and Metroparks has worked with the Foundation in the past.

Mr. Savage expressed his gratitude to Mr. Gallant for his work on helping secure the \$23.6 million BUILD grant, which will significantly fund the Glass City Metropark and Riverwalk project. Metroparks has sought this grant opportunity multiple times, with this year’s application being the first in relation to Glass City Metropark. The grant brought together numerous community organizations and bipartisan support.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

G. Mr. Byers offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mrs. Doneghy:

Resolution No. 59-20 – Ratification of Contract for Glass City Metropark Furnishings

Ms. Emily Ziegler indicated that bids were solicited for kitchen and other related furnishings for Glass City Metropark. Only one complete and acceptable bid was received. Ms. Ziegler indicated that the variety and diversity of items requested likely led to the low response.

Ms. Ziegler indicated that due to the large quantity of items needed it was more advantageous to seek a single vendor to source and price the items, rather than utilize staff time to do that work.

Mr. Savage expressed his gratitude for the work done to see Glass City Metropark Phase I so close to completion.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

5. BOARD INITIATED TOPICS AND DISCUSSIONS

With no further business or action to be taken, Mr. Dalton made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:25 a.m., which was seconded by Ms. Luetke and approved.



Scott Savage, President

Attest: 

Dave Zenk, Executive Director

DDZ/bas
09/23/20