

**Minutes of
Trumbull County MetroParks Board
Wednesday, April 27, 2016**

A meeting of Trumbull County MetroParks was called to order by the Chairman, John Brown, Jr., on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, at 4:31 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Trumbull County Planning Commission at 185 E. Market Street in Warren, Ohio. Those in attendance included the following:

John Brown, Jr., Chairman
Nicolette Darkangelo
Steve Papalas
Mike Sava
Steve Zerefos
Zachary Svette, Operations Director
Mitzi Sabella, Secretary

Also in attendance: Alex Czayka, Western Reserve Conservancy
Bob Smith, Trumbull County Historical Society

I. Approval of Board Minutes of March 23, 2016, meeting

Ms. Darkangelo made a motion to approve the board minutes of March 23, 2016; seconded by Mr. Zerefos. The motion carried.

II. Financial Report

A list of all bills paid since the last meeting was reviewed by the board members. Mr. Papalas made a motion to adopt the report on the finances; seconded by Mr. Zerefos. The motion carried.

Ms. Sabella reported that the budget for 2017 is due by May 20, 2016. She stated she will work on it with Mr. Svette and Mr. Brown and send a copy to all the board members.

III. General Business

Mr. Alex Czayka of the Western Reserve Conservancy spoke to the board about the Jennings property just north of Thomas A. Swift Park and that a NatureWorks Grant is due by June 1, 2016. Mr. Czayka stated that if the board wants to apply, Western Reserve Conservancy can submit the grant on the board's behalf. Mr. Papalas made a motion to authorize submittal of the NatureWorks Grant to ODNR and acceptance of the property if approved; seconded by Ms. Darkangelo. The motion carried.

IV. Communications – None.

V. Operations Director's Report

Mr. Zerefos made a motion to purchase a John Deere 52" Z915B zero-turn lawn mower from the Deere Company through Cope Farm Equipment in the amount of \$6,608.42 (with trade-in); seconded by Mr. Sava. The motion carried. (Other quotes received: Do-cut (no trade in) - \$5,999.04; and Dean's Outdoor Power - \$6,199.99).

Mr. Papalas made a motion to trade in the John Deere 2305 to the Deere Company for \$6,608.42; seconded by Ms. Darkangelo. The motion carried.

Mr. Svette reported on the research he has done on inspection software, City Reporter, from a company called Noratek that he would like to use in the field. Ms. Darkangelo said that she knows about this type of software and will review it with Mr. Svette.

Mr. Zerefos made a motion to partner with the Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation District for a photo contest; seconded by Mr. Papalas. The motion carried.

Mr. Svette reported that PERSO will be issuing a check for \$2,000 for the damage to the signs by the drunk driver on the bike trail last month.

Mr. Svette also reported on the visit he had with Mike Boyd of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio on a lost control visit. Mr. Boyd sent a letter with two recommendations he has for the parks:

1. A minimum fine plaque is required to accompany all handicapped reserved parking signs per the **Ohio Revised Code**.
2. Sledding Hill improvements are needed at the Eastlake MetroPark. He stated that rocks need to be removed and grass planted on the current hill before the hill is open to the public.

Mr. Svette reported that he will complete a Statement of Action Taken Form stating that the fine signs have been ordered and that the Eastlake Park will not open until all rocks are picked up and grass is established on the hill.

VI. Report on Current MetroParks

Mr. Svette reported that he attended a meeting with John Brown, Jr., at the Youngstown Air Force Base to discuss Air Force personnel performing service projects for the MetroParks.

VI. Report on Current MetroParks, continued:

Bob Smith was in attendance and had questions regarding Phase 4 of the bike trail. Mr. Svette reported that the Trumbull County Commissioners recently terminated negotiations with DLZ Ohio, Inc. for engineering services for the Phase 4 of the Western Reserve Greenway Bike Trail Project. Mr. Svette stated that DLZ had submitted three price proposals for review and none of their proposals were within acceptable limits compared to similar projects and conserving the overall budget and available funds. Mr. Brown stated that this project probably will not be completed until the year 2020.

VII. Other Parks, Preserves and Lands – no reports.

VIII. Future Planning

The next scheduled MetroParks meeting will be held on May 25, 2016, at Young's Run Disc Course at 4:30 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Zerefos made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Darkangelo. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitzi Sabella, Secretary