

**Minutes of
Trumbull County MetroParks Board
Thursday, October 28, 2021**

A meeting of the Trumbull County MetroParks was called to order by the Chair, Nicolette Darkangelo, on Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 4:15 p.m. at the Park Office at 3983 N. River Road in Howland Township. Those in attendance included the following:

Nicholette Darkangelo, Chair
John Brown, Jr.
Kathy DiCristofaro
Steve Maas
Zachary Svette, Operations Director
Mitzi Sabella, Secretary

Also in attendance: Commissioner Mauro Cantalamessa
Bob Copland, Tribune Chronicle

Public Comments

Commissioners Mauro Cantalamessa was in attendance at this meeting. He stated that the Board of Commissioners realize the MetroParks has run on very little funding for the longest time and they are aware of all the projects that have completed. He said he knows the Commissioners are responsible for the bike trail. He said he feels that the Board of Commissioners will be in a better position for funding the MetroParks in 2022. Mr. Maas stated that the MetroParks cannot continue to sustain on the same budget they have been given year after year. Ms. Darkangelo said maintenance continues to go up. She mentioned the Friends Group and the events that are being held at the parks. She stated that the MetroPark really needs the Trumbull County Commissioners' support, and it is a quality of life issue. Mr. Brown, Jr. asked about APR funds. Commissioner Cantalamessa said the county is getting \$38,000,000 over two years, and they are discussing ideas, but the rules and guidance have to be followed.

I. Approval of Board Minutes of September 23, 2021

Ms. DiCristofaro made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2021, regular meeting; seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion was carried.

II. Financial Report

The list of the bills paid were reviewed by the board. Mr. Maas made a motion to approve the financial report; seconded by Mr. Brown, Jr. The motion was carried.

Mr. Brown, Jr. made a motion to approve increasing the payment for Maintenance Workers next year to \$15 per hour and increase the proposed 2022 MetroParks budget request to \$521,851 which includes \$400,000.00 for design work for bridge and other trail work; seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion carried.

III. General Business

Mr. Maas made a motion to transfer the Chariot, Jr. Riding Lawn Mower (Tag #49417) to the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department since it is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or unfit to fuse for which it was acquired (Under Ohio Law, we can transfer/donate property to another county agency; seconded by Ms. DiCristofaro. The motion was carried.

Mr. Brown, Jr. made a motion to approve, pending the award of the DGA Replay Program, that Trumbull County MetroParks will donate 18 baskets to Warren City Schools for the installation of two 9 Hole Disc Golf courses, and the MetroParks as the program recipient will be awarded 18 Mach 7 baskets; seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion was carried.

Ms. DiCristofaro made a motion to approve MS Consultants to perform the bike Trial Preliminary Engineering for \$25,000 and to allow the Executive Director to enter into a contract with MS Consultants; pending the review of the contract by legal counsel; seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion was carried.

Mr. Maas made a motion to approve a letter being send to Judge James A. Fredericka, Trumbull County Probate Court, recommending the John Brown, Jr. be reappointed to another three-year term starting in 2022; seconded by Ms. DiCristofaro. The motion was carried.

IV. Communications

There were no communications to review,

V. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Svette reviewed his report with the board.

VI. Reports on Current MetroParks

No further reports.

VII. Other Parks, Preserve and Lands

MetroParks Events

Ms. Darkangelo reported on various events that were held or will be held including:

S'mores Under the Stars – October 9, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. at Park Office – Went very well. Ms. Darkangelo thanked Ms. DiCristofaro for spreading the word of the event at local schools. She stated that the Friends Facebook presence went up after the event.

Pups N Pumpkins – October 31, 2021 – 1:00 p.m. – Park Office – Ms. Darkangelo invited everyone to the event.

She also discussed having a winter event at the sledding hill and perhaps having rock painting event.

She discussed having fund raisers such as a Farm to Table event and/or a formal event in February.

VIII. Future Planning

The next scheduled regular meeting of MetroParks will be held on **Thursday, December 9, 2021**, at 4:15 p.m. at the Park Office on North River Road.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. DiCristofaro made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitzi Sabella

Mitzi Sabella, Secretary