

**Minutes of
Trumbull County MetroParks Board
(Special Meeting)
Saturday, April 22, 2023**

A special meeting/retreat of the Trumbull County MetroParks was called to order by the Chair, Nicolette Darkangelo, on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at 9:05 a.m. at the Park Office at 3983 N. River Road in Howland Township. Those in attendance included the following:

John Brown
Nicolette Darkangelo, Chair
Kathy DiCristofaro
Steve Maas
Kurt Sauer
Zachary Svette, Executive Director

Also in attendance: Sarah Lowry

I. Welcome & Overview:

Sarah Lowry went over ground rules for the retreat regarding the Mission, Vision and Core Values.

II. Review [Survey Results](#) & [Kent State Research](#)

Sarah Lowry reviewed survey results and information provide by Students from Kent State University via the Park, Recreation and Tourism Department.

III. Visioning Exercise:

Sarah led the Board and the Executive Director through a visioning exercise that went over these areas:

- a. Describe what the MetroParks should look like in 20 Years. Include activities, programs, facilities, and so on in your responses.
- b. What core values need to be present in order for these changes to happen? What core values need to be updated or adapted in order for these changes to happen?
- c. What actions or policies need to be considered in order for these changes to happen? What actions or policies need to be avoided for these changes to happen?
- d. Are there things that need to be let go of in order for these things to happen?

IV. Recap of Visioning Exercise:

Sarah recapped the exercise with the Board and the Executive Director.

V. Draft Value, Vision and Mission

VALUES: Transparency; Collaboration & Partnerships; Volunteerism; Connectivity; Accountability & Stewardship of Resources; Healthy & Safe Environments.

VISION: Trumbull County MetroParks consistently provides conservation, recreation, and educational activities for all to enjoy.

NEW MISSION: The mission of the Trumbull County MetroParks is to promote health, recreation, conservation, and economic development for residents and visitors by developing, preserving, and managing park properties.

Current: [Trumbull County MetroParks will] conserve, manage, protect, and promote Trumbull County's natural resources for the benefit of the public's recreational needs, environmental education, awareness, health and enjoyment.

VI. Next Steps

The core value, vision and mission will be placed on the agenda for Thursday, April 27 for formal adoption.

Sarah & Zack revisit outreach plan to connect with community leaders and partners and report back to the group

- i. Use new tools to help prioritize outreach activities

II. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Sauer made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitzi Sabella

Mitzi Sabella, Secretary