

**WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Denny Parish at 3:02 p.m. at Park District Headquarters, 18729 Mercer Road, Bowling Green, Ohio.

2. ROLL CALL

Bob Hawker, absent
John Calderonello, present
Bob Dorn, present
Dennis Parish, present
Christine Seiler, present

Others present: Neil Munger, Bryan Bockbrader, Jamie Sands, and Kellie Panning.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Parish stated the minutes of the October 11, 2016 regular meeting were distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting for review and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Mr. Dorn moved approval of the October 11, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Mr. Calderonello seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing at this time.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2017 Local Park Improvement Grant Program Recommendations – Mr. Munger reviewed the additional information provided to the Board as requested at the October meeting including all grants applied for and awarded. Mr. Munger further explained that one grant went unfunded due to the incorrect type of mulch, landscaping mulch rather than safety surfacing mulch. Another grant was unfunded as the request exceeded available funding. Finally, another entity has maintenance issues that must be addressed prior to being awarded grant funds. Mr. Munger stated that when there is a deficiency, Mr. Baney notifies the entity so that it may be addressed on future grant requests. Mr. Parish pointed out that the Park District has granted funds to thirty-four different entities within Wood County and grants have been as small as several hundred dollars to tens of thousands of dollars. Mr. Munger stated with the current levy grant funding is set at \$100,000 annually.

Mr. Dorn moved approval of Resolution 16-043 approving the recommendations of the grant review committee for Local Park Improvement Grants to be awarded in 2017. Seconded by Ms. Seiler. All in favor. Motion carried.

2017 Operating Budget Draft – Mr. Munger reviewed staffing and salaries explaining that the program department has requested a part-time naturalist, a part-time farm specialist and a farm history intern to assist with research. The capital improvement budget is just over \$1 million. Mr. Munger explained that

renovations to the Sawyer Quarry Nature Preserve house are delayed until 2018. The equipment budget is up slightly due to adventure programming equipment requests including archery gear, canoe/kayak supplies and a new, larger canoe trailer. Mr. Munger clarified that the kayaks acquired earlier this year were funded through a grant. Ms. Seiler stated the system of reserving canoes and kayaks online is not user friendly as it is geared more toward groups and not individuals. Mr. Munger confirmed the system is geared more toward scout and church groups and explained why groups are targeted versus individual reservations noting it is not conducive to staffing to have fewer than six canoes/kayaks reserved at one time. Ms. Seiler stated this puts an undue burden on individuals being able to take advantage of programs because they may not have a group. Ms. Seiler stated that if the program is expanded it needs to be made more accessible to individuals, not just groups.

Mr. Munger then answered questions regarding various equipment purchases included in the proposed budget. Mr. Calderonello inquired about exercise equipment stations in the parks. Mr. Munger stated that a location has not yet been decided upon as the equipment is treated as playground equipment and requires fall zones, safety surfacing and adequate space. Mr. Munger displayed an example of the insulation proposed for Thompson Stone Hall which includes four-inch thick foam insulation and plywood with an R30 rating. Mr. Calderonello asked for clarification on the miscellaneous line in each account and Mr. Munger stated he'll put some bullet points together providing additional information. Mr. Munger stated cost of living increases have not yet been included in the budget as he is awaiting direction from the Board of County Commissioners.

Maumee River Water Trail – Mr. Munger stated Toledo MetroParks and Defiance County Soil & Water Conservation District have begun looking at the possibility of a water trail from the Ohio state line to Maumee Bay. The entities are preparing a grant and working out details and have requested resolutions of support from participating agencies. Mr. Munger stated there are ten access points within Wood County and two within the Wood County Park District network, Buttonwood Park and Otsego Park. Mr. Munger stated that grant funding will be used for signage and literature listing trail access points.

Mr. Calderonello moved approval of Resolution 16-046 supporting the establishment of the Maumee River Water Trail as a designated water trail by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Seconded by Mr. Dorn. All in favor. Motion carried.

Wood County Historical Society Board Appointment – Mr. Munger stated his term is expiring and recommended Jeff Baney to fill the expired term. Mr. Munger stated Mr. Baney has fulfilled this position in the past, has the knowledge to step right in and is willing to accept the appointment.

Mr. Dorn moved to appoint Jeffrey Baney to serve on the Board of the Wood County Historical Committee. Seconded by Mr. Calderonello.

Ms. Seiler questioned if this board appointment was offered to other staff

members. Mr. Munger explained this is an administrative function encompassing after hours' meetings and additional duties and responsibilities noting that most staff members are extremely busy and unable to take on additional responsibilities. Ms. Seiler countered that this is a potential for leadership development and as Mr. Baney is already in leadership and served on the board previously, she recommends offering the position to staff as a professional development opportunity. Ms. Seiler stated that if no one comes forward that she has no problem with Mr. Baney assuming the position. The Board tabled the discussion. Mr. Munger stated the appointment will be offered to staff noting an appointment should be made by the first of the year.

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Responding to Mr. Calderonello, Mr. Bockbrader stated he has not seen recent data on monarchs but during the summer there was concern over declining numbers due to a dry season. Mr. Bockbrader stated that Park District monitors are in the process of submitting numbers now. Mr. Calderonello further discussed worldwide species extinction of wildlife and discussed Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) restoration efforts asking if the Park District coordinates with ODNR in restoring native species. Mr. Munger stated that the district supports ODNR's efforts but the Park District is only responsible for restoration of our own property as is ODNR of their own property. Mr. Calderonello suggested hosting additional composting workshops and offering resources on the website including composting designs. Mr. Calderonello then discussed exhibition of photographs in the Four Corners building and discussion took place regarding publication of a Park District calendar. Responding to the Board, Mr. Munger confirmed that the rangers have not yet had to use Narcan. Mr. Bockbrader stated the quail will be released in the spring due to reports of a harsh winter and stated another beehive may be added next year. Mr. Calderonello discussed bats and Mr. Bockbrader stated there are bat houses in the parks but there are so many hollow trees bats are using the trees rather than the bat houses.

7. APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Mr. Parish stated payables have been distributed and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Dorn moved approval of the expenditures for the month of October. Seconded by Ms. Seiler. All in favor, motion carried.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Sands unveiled the new weparks app which includes interactive maps noting that trails are under development. Ms. Sands confirmed that programs are listed on the app but reservations are not possible at this time.

10. FRIENDS OF THE WOOD COUNTY PARKS

Nothing at this time.

11. **HEARING OF VISITORS**

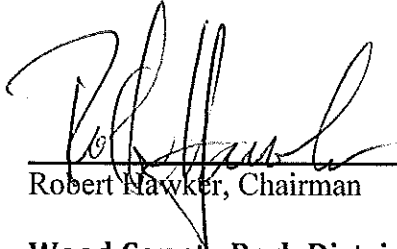
Nothing at this time.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**


Nothing at this time.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dorn moved adjournment. Mr. Calderonello seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.



Robert Hawker, Chairman



Neil A. Munger, Director

Wood County Park District
18729 Mercer Road, Bowling Green, OH 43402 (419) 353-1897