

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF MILL CREEK  
METROPARKS

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek MetroParks was held on Monday, July 8, 2024.

The meeting opened at 5:00 p.m., with recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Lee Frey, Board President welcomed staff and guests.

Roll Call was as follows:

Germaine Bennett;	Present
Lee Frey;	Present
Tom Frost,	Present
Jeff Harvey;	Present
Paul Olivier;	Present

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2024. Lee Frey accepted the minutes into the record as written.

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented the Department Report for Finance and requested that disbursements #92756 - #92994 for a total of \$1,070,493.06, be approved. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, that the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #92756 - #92994 for a total of \$1,070,493.06, be approved. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:	Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay:	None

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented and requested to increase appropriations to account 100-0550-5040 Property Acquisition & Improvements Materials by \$5,000. This was received from a donation to be used towards the planting project of new saplings at Vickers. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, that the request to increase appropriations to account 100-0550-5040 Property Acquisition & Improvements Materials by \$5,000., be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:	Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay:	None

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented and requested to increase appropriations to account 100-2103-5040 Fellows Riverside Garden Capital Improvements Materials by \$5,000. This was received from a donation to be used towards the maintenance and new plantings at the Fragrance Garden. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, that the request to increase appropriations to account 100-2103-5040 Fellows Riverside Garden Capital Improvements Materials by \$5,000., be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye:	Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay:	None

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented and requested to increase appropriations to account 100-3510-5040 Gardens Operations Materials by \$5,479. This was a reimbursement received for work completed at the Fellows Riverside Garden Gazebo, including the replacement of planter boxes. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Finance Director, that the request to increase appropriations to account

100-3510-5040 Gardens Operations Materials by \$5,479., be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier  
Voting Nay: None

Austin Brooks, Staff Accountant presented the Quarterly Credit Card Report for the second quarter of 2024. No action was required.

Aaron Young, Executive Director shared that the MetroParks now has its park information uploaded to the OuterSpatial Get Outside App. Aaron thanked Jaime and Dana for their work on this issue. Germaine Bennett asked about the concert events held at the Morley Pavilion. Aaron shared that the MetroParks recently held a concert day at the Morley Pavilion and that 31 attendees were recorded. Germaine asked that the MetroParks team discuss how the marketing was done for this event and determine if it can be improved.

Randall Campana, Chief of Police presented and requested approval of the MetroParks Police Policies dated May 2024 update. The updates include changes to polices associated with Personal Communication Devices, Communication Center, Forensic Genetic Genealogy, Suspicious Activity Reporting and Native American graves protection and repatriation. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Chief of Police, that the MetroParks Police Policies changes be approved. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier  
Voting Nay: None

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented and requested approval of the following Special Events:

1. Youngstown Peace Race in MCP on 10-06-24
2. Cross Country Race at Farm on 09-21-24
3. Cross Country Race at Farm on 09-28-24

Lee Frey moved, at the request of the PGA Director of Golf and Recreation, that the Special Events be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier  
Voting Nay: None

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented and requested approval of the following requests to collect funds:

1. Rotary Club of Youngstown at FRG on 08-11-24

Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Executive Director, that the requests to collect funds be approved. The motion was seconded by Germaine Bennett after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier  
Voting Nay: None

Chris Litton, Development Director presented the MetroParks Foundation deposit report for the period of June 1-30, 2024, at a total of \$11,275.11 for approval. Lee Frey moved at the request of the Director of Development to accept the deposit report for the period of June 1-30, 2024, at a total of \$11,275.11. The motion was seconded by Tom Frost, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier  
Voting Nay: None

Chris Litton, Development Director presented and requested approval of Resolution R-24-09 Acknowledgement of Grants, Donations or Trusts for the period of April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024. Lee Frey moved, at the request of the Development Director, that Resolution R-24-09 Acknowledgement of Grants, Donations or Trusts for the period of April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024, be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

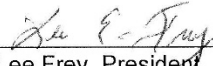
Voting Aye: Bennett, Frey, Frost, Harvey, Olivier  
Voting Nay: None

Resolution R-24-09

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRANTS, DONATIONS, OR TRUSTS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of Mill Creek Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to acknowledge the grants, donations or trusts submitted to the Park District for the period of April 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024 as detailed on the summary marked Exhibit A, and authorize legal counsel to make application to the Probate Court pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 1545.11 for approval and to secure Journal Entry of the Probate Court.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, We, the Board of Park Commissioners hereunto set our hand this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024.

  
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Lee Frey, President

  
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Germaine Bennett, Vice President

  
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Tom Frost, Commissioner

  
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Jeff Harvey, Commissioner

  
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Paul Olivier, Commissioner

07/01/24	Second Quarter Donation Log		
	Prepared by: Chris Litton		
	Development Director		
	Mill Creek MetroParks		
Date	Donor	Amount	Fund
04/01/24	Tom Shipka	\$ 100.00	General Endowment
04/23/24	Daughters of the American Revolution	\$ 2,000.00	Golf Endowment
04/03/24	Ronald & Rebecca Craig	\$ 100.00	Children's Garden
04/08/24	Theodore and Lisa Schmidt	\$ 250.00	Children's Garden
01/27/24	Go Livley FDN.	\$ 249.07	Children's Garden
04/11/24	Ethan Tabor	\$ 25.00	Short -Term General
04/26/24	Donald Dockry	\$ 1,000.00	Short -Term Trail
04/24/24	Eileen Murphy	\$ 50.00	Tree Fund
04/18/24	Barbara Good	\$ 500.00	Children's Garden
04/18/24	Richard Moore	\$ 5,000.00	Short-Term FRG
04/08/24	Katherine Fleming	\$ 1,500.00	Children's Garden
04/04/24	Christina Kelly	\$ 100.00	Children's Garden
04/02/24	Dess Fedele	\$ 100.00	Children's Garden
04/01/24	Jennifer Davidson	\$ 50.00	Tree Fund
04/01/24	Anonymous	\$ 100.00	Children's Garden
05/01/24	Tom Shipka	\$ 100.00	General Endowment
05/01/24	Anonymous	\$ 25.00	Children's Garden
05/02/24	Jeff Wollet	\$ 50.00	Tree Fund
05/21/24	Jack Auman	\$ 100.00	Children's Garden
06/01/24	Tom Shipka	\$ 100.00	Children's Garden
06/04/24	Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens	\$ 4,175.11	Rose Garden Endowment
06/24/24	Jessica Milner	\$ 250.00	Golf Course Endowment
06/14/24	Melanie Lozier	\$ 500.00	Trail Endowment
06/14/24	Marianne Klein	\$ 150.00	Ford Nature Center Endowment
06/03/24	Ledonna Topich	\$ 50.00	Tree Fund
06/13/24	Boardman Subaru	\$ 5,000.00	Tree Fund
06/19/24	Angela Okusewsky	\$ 50.00	Tree Fund
06/16/24	Fireline Inc.	\$ 1,000.00	Tree Fund
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,674.18</b>	

Public Comments to the Board: (see sign-in sheet)

- Jerry Serbel stated that he lives on Bears Den Road and has been complaining about a tree on Roseway and Bears Den Road that has finally fallen down but is at the meeting because he is an advocate for the deer. He believes hunting in Mill Creek Park is stupid. He doesn't think it is right to hunt God's creatures. He enjoys the Park. He questions why we are doing the same thing that we did as last year.
- Marianne Whitehouse identified herself as the widow of Bill Whitehouse. Mary Anne asked a visitor to put down a Save the Deer sign. Bill lived for 87 years and passed last September 11, 2023. She stated that she was told by a Board member that a memorial would be identified to honor Bill. She is in attendance simply to share that nothing has been done. She doesn't think that it is too much to ask for a trail to be named in honor of Bill.
- Mike "Mickey" Drabison stated that he attended the meeting at Fair Park with Aaron today and he inquired about an event titled "Forest Babies." Mike stated that Aaron made a quote about all of the deer having to go.
- Lana Van Auker thanked Mickey for his comments. Lana shared that Bill was an amazing man. Lana shared that she owns various parcels of land. She read a prepared statement against the Park's deer management program and in support of contraceptive programs. Lana stated that the number of hunters worldwide is declining. She ended with a quote from Jane Goodall.
- Ray Thomas referenced his previous comment from back in March regarding concerts at the Morley Pavilion. Greg referenced a recent program at Lanterman's Mill. Greg stated that we did not provide firewood to cook the hot dogs. Greg went to the Morley during this past month and noted the low level of attendance. Greg stated that the promotion of the concerts needs to happen a year in advance.

Commissioner Comments:

- Lee Frey asked if someone on staff would get in contact with Jerry to look at the tree that he is concerned about.
- Lee Frey moved that we name a trail at FNC in honor of Bill Whitehouse. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier. Jeff moved to table Lee's motion until the issue can be discussed further. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier and after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Voting Aye: Bennett, Frost, Harvey, Olivier

Voting Nay: Frey

- Germaine Bennett referenced her history with Mr. Whitehouse and the Ford Nature Center.
- Lee Frey requested that the issue be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Jeff Harvey requested that Staff draft a policy for the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., in McMahon Hall at the MetroParks Farm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:39 p.m.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary