

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, October 21, 2024.

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

Tom Frost, Board member welcomed staff and guests.

Roll Call was as follows:

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

The Board was presented with the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2024. Tom Frost indicated that the minutes will need to be reviewed and accepted into the record as part of the November Meeting due to a lack of a quorum of attendees who were at the September 9, 2024 Meeting

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented the Department Report for Finance and requested that disbursements #93591 - #93788 for a total of \$1,402,918.10, be approved. Tom Frost moved, at the request of the Finance Director, that the funds having been certified as on hand and duly appropriated, that disbursements #93591 - #93788 for a total of \$1,402,918.10, 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:	Frost, Harvey, Olivier
Voting Nay:	None

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented a request to increase appropriations to account 100-4803-5007 Annual Pavilion Improvements Contract Jobs by \$25,193.82. This money was received from an insurance claim from wind/storm damage to the Par 3 clubhouse, restrooms, and fencing. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Finance Director. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Nick Morchak, Finance Director/Treasurer presented a request to close a 2023 Purchase Order & reappropriate the remaining funds [\$8,551] into a new 2024 Purchase Order. The vendor, whom the 2023 PO was made out to & who was providing design work for the Children's Garden, was bought by another company. Therefore, we would like to reappropriate the remaining money that was set aside for the old vendor so that we can use it to continue the project. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Finance Director. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Austin Brooks, Staff Accountant presented the Quarterly Credit Card Compliance Report for the third quarter of 2024. No Board action is needed.

Aaron Young, Executive Director thanked everyone for coming to the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner that was held on September 25, 2024. He thanked Jaime Yohman and the Community Engagement Department for their work in hosting the dinner.

Nick Derico, Natural Resources Manager acknowledged the work of Eagle Scout candidate Harold Miller. Harold completed a little free library and accompanying bench at the Newport Wetlands Parking lot.

Megan Hanley, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director presented and requested approval of Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield as the 2025 Medical Insurance Provider for the MetroParks. New for 2025 will be the option to select critical illness coverage. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Human Resources & Administrative Services Director. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Randy Campana, Chief of Police presented and requested approval of the OVI Task Force Contract for Fiscal Year 2025. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Randy Campana, Chief of Police presented and requested approval of the Lexipol Policy Updates for September 2024. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented and requested approval of his nomination by the Board to the District 6 Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC). Aaron has served in one of the at-large member seats for District 6 NRAC since early 2016. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Justin Rogers, Director of Planning & Operations requested that the Executive Director be authorized to enter into a property access agreement with August Mack Environmental, Inc. in association with environmental remediation work associated with a chemical spill along the MetroParks Bikeway in Canfield, Ohio. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Director of Planning & Operations. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented and requested approval of the following special event.

1. Request to Collect Funds 12-5-24 @ McMahan Hall or Yellow Creek Lodge (depending on availability) to benefit Willow Woods Activities Dept and Open Waters Counseling Day Treatment Program

Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Aaron Young, Executive Director presented and requested approval of the following special event.

1. 2024 Youngstown Half Marathon on 09-22-24 in MCP; Approval retroactive to 09-09-24

Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Chris Litton, Development Director presented the MetroParks Foundation deposit report for the period of September 1-30, 2024, at a total of \$266,538.24 for approval. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Director of Development. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Chris Litton, Development Director presented and requested approval of Resolution R-24-13 Acknowledgement of Grants, Donations, or Trusts for the period of July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Director of Development. The motion was seconded by Jeff Harvey, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Resolution R-24-13

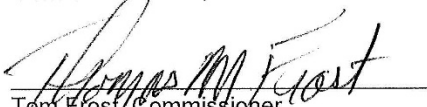
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRANTS, DONATIONS, OR TRUSTS


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 July 1, 2024, through September 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of OCTOBER, 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

Date	Donor	Amount	Fund
6/29/2024	Mah. Valley Amateur Radio Ass.	\$ 100.00	Farm Endowment
7/1/2024	Tom & Katie Shipka	\$ 100.00	General Endowment
7/15/2024	Edward and Melissa Brudinski	\$ 25.00	General Endowment
7/22/2024	Mahoning Garden Club	\$ 50.00	Fellows Riverside Gardens End.
7/20/2024	Jack Auman	\$ 50.00	Ford Nature Center Endowment
7/31/2024	Micro Brew Fest	\$ 1,920.00	Natural Trail Endowment
7/4/2024	Rachel Morgan	\$ 5,000.00	Rose Garden Endowment
7/30/2024	Jason Volovar	\$ 500.00	Natural Trail Endowment
6/28/2024	PNC Foundation	\$ 250.00	Children's Garden Short Term
7/2/2024	Laura F. Frey	\$ 200.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/10/2024	Fidelity Charitable	\$ 1,000.00	Children's Garden Short Term
7/24/2024	Community Behavior Consulting	\$ 2,500.00	General Short Term
7/25/2024	Coach Gorby's Fast Track & Field	\$ 20,000.00	Farm-Short Term
7/2/2024	Jennifer Davison	\$ 100.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/5/2024	Barb Gonda	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/5/2024	Barb Gonda	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/12/2024	Laura Cruickshank	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/24/2024	Angel Okusewsky	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/28/2024	Frank Behne	\$ 2,500.00	General Short Term
7/30/2024	Jason Volovar	\$ 100.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/30/2024	Shuiping Jiang	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
7/31/2024	Cheryl Russell	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
8/31/2024	Micro Brew Fest	\$ 2,360.00	Natural Trail Endowment
8/1/2024	Tom & Katie Shipka	\$ 100.00	General Endowment
8/1/2024	Fedelivery Charitable	\$ 100.00	General Endowment
8/18/2024	Daniel Kuzma	\$ 500.00	Natural Trail Endowment
8/20/2024	Emily Anders	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
6/15/2024	Paula Droege	\$ 200.00	Golf Course Endowment
8/25/2024	Jennifer Siegel	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
8/21/2024	Patricia Fulmer	\$ 200.00	Tree Trust Short Term
8/26/2024	Jason Ramsey	\$ 25.00	General Short Term
8/30/2024	Matthew Vansuch	\$ 50.00	Tree Trust Short Term
8/7/2024	Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens	\$ 23,108.95	MCMP Account
9/10/2024	Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens	\$ 1,288.24	Fellows Riverside Gardens End.
9/1/2024	Steve & Christine Grabert	\$ 25.00	Fellows Riverside Gardens End.
9/3/2024	Tom & Katie Shipka	\$ 100.00	General Endowment
8/27/2024	The Columbus Foundation	\$ 1,000.00	Natural Trail Endowment
9/26/2024	Est. of Elizabeth A. Decesare	\$ 5,000.00	Yellows Creek Endowment
9/12/2024	Melissa Auck	\$ 25.00	General Endowment
9/26/2024	Fireline Inc.	\$ 4,000.00	Tree Trust Short Term
9/19/2024	The Youngstown FDN.	\$ 250,000.00	Children's Garden Short Term
9/25/2024	Capitol Group American Funds	\$ 5,000.00	Children's Garden Short Term
9/1/2024	Nancy Tusnac	\$ 100.00	Tree Trust Short Term
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 327,977.19</b>	

Chris Litton, Development Director presented and requested approval of a naming and recognition agreement with Robert R. Fox Sr. and Kristine A. Fox for The Anthony J. Fox Family Foundation Children's Garden. Tom Frost moved to approve the request as presented by the Director of Development. The motion was seconded by Paul Olivier, after discussion, the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

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

Prior to beginning public comment, Commissioner Tom Frost reminded the audience that it is a public comments period, not a public question and answer session or public dialogue session. If audience

members have questions as to the operations of the MetroParks, business cards for the Department Directors are provided at the sign-in table.

- Jerry Serbel stated that he is against the killing of deer in Mill Creek Park. He questioned the PGA Hope banner that is near the golf course. He asked how many deer have been killed to date. He questioned the closing of various parks for gun hunting but not bow hunting. He doesn't like having his back to the crowd at a the meeting with the moving of the podium. He hasn't seen any substantial proof of the Park's claim of too many deer.
- Abby Ivan questioned the status of her previous inquiry into the size of the harvested deer. She doesn't believe that the size of the deer harvested warranted hiring another round of sharpshooters. She stated that the protestors made a lot of noise during the culling and learned that neighbors were unaware of what was happening. She questioned the need to do the cull. She questioned the costs associated with the deer management plan for the amount of meat that was donated.
- Chris Flak read a prepared comment inquiring about a wildlife management program separate from the deer management program.
- Lana van Auken read a prepared stated. She stated that a war is currently going on within the Park. It is a war that involves herbicides being used at the golf course and a war against deer. She read a quote from the Humane Society and Jane Goodall. She loves and admires wildlife.
- Kathy Doslovic referenced the area near the wetlands at the bottom of Calvary Run coming from Belle Vista. She stated that the area needs to be cleaned up. She commented about the dead branches within and around the perimeter of Lake Glacier needing removed. The areas adjacent to Slippery Rock Pavilion also have many dead trees laying on the ground. These logs should be removed.

Commissioner Comments:

- Paul stated that he does not have any comments.
- Jeff stated that he recently attended the pumpkin walk and was thrilled to see the large number of attendees. He further commented that he drove through the park on the same day and the park was highly visited. He stated that he visits the parks daily.
- Tom Frost stated that people have recently shared with him that the Park looks beautiful and was getting used frequently. He stated that people see all of the good things going on in the Parks. Tom thanked the staff for their work.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., in McMahon Hall at the MetroParks Farm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:38 p.m.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary