

Ashtabula County Metroparks Board Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2022 - 4:30 p.m.

Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark
Ellsworth Pavilion
1101 Harpersfield Road
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Call to Order- 4:30 PM

Board members in attendance: Marie Lane, President; Joe Tredent, Vice-President; Paul Carpenter; Holly Mayernick and Charlie Kohli

Staff in attendance: Antoinette Swegheimer; Brett Bellas; Eric Dietrich and Laura Beattie

Guests in attendance: Mary Neary, Bike Patrol and David King, resident

Kohli shared that June 6th was his 35th anniversary with the Ashtabula County Metroparks. A brief discussion was held and Kohli was congratulated. We are thankful for his continued dedication and service to the county.

Kohli moved to approve the agenda; Mayernick seconded. All in favor, "aye".

Mayernick moved to accept the May 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes; Kohli, seconded. All in favor, "aye".

Kohli moved to accept the May 2022 financial reports including the Appropriation Status, Fund Summary and Payment Listing; Mayernick seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Audience Participation:

Lane invited King to present at this time. King spoke about the North Shore Trail bike lane signage and safety concerns. He also mentioned that there is a safety concern with West Avenue and Michigan Avenue parking areas. There was a brief discussion on the North Shore Trail bike lanes, sharrows and the weathered signage on West Avenue.

Neary spoke regarding the North Shore Trail brochure and website. She suggested the Metroparks revise the brochure and website to promote the trail leading to Walnut Beach Park and Lake Erie. This is a great tourist attraction, and we need to inform people. Swegheimer stated she will be updating the brochures. Carpenter and Mayernick advised Swegheimer to update the brochure and website sooner than later.

Neary shared a concern about the Greenway Trail. There are people that are staying after dusk, south of the tunnel by Route 84. Bellas commented that this was a concern that was discussed at the Bike Patrol Kick-off meeting, June 8, 2022. Swegheimer stated that this is a shared concern; Bellas and Dietrich are working on this.

Carpenter thanked the bike patrol and commented that they are doing a great job.

Presidents Report:

Lane led a discussion as to the location of the July 13, 2022 and August 10, 2022, Regular Board Meetings and the Upper Grand River Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Lane then stated the July 13, 2022 Regular Board Meeting will be located at Lampson Staging Area Metropark, the Upper Grand River Metropark, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be August 10, 2022 at 4:00 pm, and the August 10, 2022 Regular Board Meeting will take place immediately thereafter.

Lane shared with the board members that she will include the Master Plan check off list on the September or October agenda. This will be a good time to review our goals.

Staff Report:

Swegheimer shared, Bellas graduated from Leadership Ashtabula County on June 3, 2022. His class voted Bellas to be a class speaker. Beattie attended the graduation and commented that Bellas did a wonderful job on his presentation.

Mayernick commented, Bellas did a nice job on the Upper Grand River Metropark "Behind the Scenes" presentation.

Swegheimer shared, the staff are looking to apply for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Storybook Trails grant funding and to partner with the Conneaut Library and Conneaut Schools. There is a meeting scheduled the week of June 20th to discuss details.

Swegheimer shared, yO! Opportunities is a program that provides a member to work at the designated place of employment (worksites) at no cost to us. We provide the member with work experience and an opportunity to add to their resume. We anticipate 5-6 people to work with Bellas in the parks and 1 person to assist in the office. The member is covered under the yO! Opportunities insurance. Mayernick commented, she is familiar with this program.

Kohli asked for an update on the Harpersfield Bait Shop. Swegheimer commented, the addendum located in your packet, states the current lease will be extended until December 31, 2022, and the lessee will pay rent of \$150.00 per month. This does not change anything else in the current contract. This addendum has been approved by legal counsel.

Bellas shared that the staff held a Bike Patrol meeting with the current members on June 8, 2022. The meeting covered office and member protocols, point of contact, safety protocols, timesheet/tracking hours, submitting documents, and concerns. There were several members that were out of town and Bellas will be contacting them. He will submit the paperwork to Beattie to document. The staff will schedule a meeting with new Bike Patrol members soon.

Kohli reminded the board members and staff that he offered to lead the Friends of Malek Park group. Swegheimer stated that the city is still working on dismantling and removing the playground equipment. She will follow-up on the status with Jim Hockaday, City Manager. Lane stated that the equipment will be relocated to the Conneaut Port Authority.

Swegheimer shared, she received the 2022 Grand River Lampricide Treatment Mortality Inventory Post-field Summary report from Jeffrey Hayes, Assistant Regional Scenic River Manager. Carpenter requested a copy be sent to him.

Swegheimer shared that Bellas attends the Conneaut Advisory Meeting and she attends the Ashtabula Advisory Meetings. Carpenter asked Swegheimer to send him the next Ashtabula Advisory Meeting date and location.

Lane inquired on the status of the audit. Beattie shared that the State will be conducting the 2020 and 2021 audit beginning the week of June 20th. Fiscal year 2020 will be a single audit since we received over \$750,000.00 in Federal dollars. Fiscal year 2021 will be a regular audit. The fee for this audit is \$5,699, see item #9 under Action Required. Lane stated that the board has an option to attend or waive a pre-audit conference. A brief discussion was held. She noted that the pre-audit conference is waived, and Beattie will proceed accordingly. Lane stated she will be available for any questions or assistance.

Lane inquired on the Red Brook pool house status. Bellas stated that we are waiting for 10 days to allow for the Environmental Protection Agency window. We will proceed after that.

Action Required:

Mayerick moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-4 authorizing the application to the Ashtabula County Commissioners through the American Rescue Act Plan to purchase CXT Prefabricated Restrooms; Kohli seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Mayernick moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-5 authorizing the application to the Ashtabula County Commissioners through the American Rescue Act Plan for restroom rental and cleaning services financial assistance; Kohli seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Tredent moved to approve Geotechnical Services for the Red Brook Metropark Bridge Project from GEOSCI, at the rate of \$50.00 per foot. This rate includes field, laboratory, and engineering services; Mayernick seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Carpenter moved to authorize Antoinette Swegheimer to negotiate a contract with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy for 264.07 acres (also known as the Buchan property); Kohli seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Mayerick moved to approve the Addendum to Contract Lease Agreement for Concession/Bait Stand at Harpersfield Metropolitan Park as presented; Kohli seconded. All in favor, "aye".

Kohli moved to approve the Ashtabula County Metroparks designated hunting areas by park for the 2022-2023 hunting season as proposed; Carpenter seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Tredent moved to accept the bid from Union Industrial Contractors for the Pro Shop restoration and northern pavilion for \$314,000; Kohli seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Carpenter moved to approve the yO! Opportunities Program and Ashtabula County Metroparks 2022 Worksite Agreement as presented; Kohli seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Mayernick moved to approve the amount of \$5,699 to be paid to the Ohio Auditor of State for the 2020 and 2021 audit; Carpenter seconded. Roll call, "aye".

Mayernick moved to adjourn the meeting and enter executive session at 5:16 pm for the purpose of discussing property and personnel; Carpenter seconded. Lane invited Swegheimer to join executive session. Roll call, "aye".

The executive session ended and returned to regular session at 5:47 p.m.

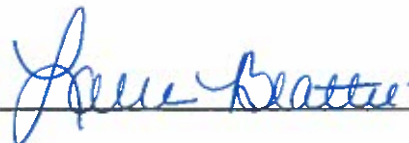
Kohli moved to adjourn regular session at 5:47 pm; Tredent seconded.

Upcoming:

- Next Board Meeting
July 13, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.
Lampson Staging Area Metropark
2540 Lampson Road
Austinburg, Ohio 44010



Marie Lane, ACMP Board President



Laura Beattie, Fiscal Officer/Clerk of the Board