

Regular Board Meeting – May 20, 2020

Resolution Summary

Resolution	Description	Byers	Dalton	Doneghy	Luetke	Savage	
Resolution No. 29-20	Ratification of Schedule of Payables			Motioned	2 nd		Approved
Resolution No. 30-20	Approval of Supplement and Amendment of the 2020 Certificate of Estimated Resources and Appropriations Measure		2 nd		Motioned		Approved
Resolution No. 31-20	Designation of Law Enforcement Personnel	2 nd		Motioned			Approved
Resolution No. 32-20	Contract Approval, Glass City Metropark Professional Surveying Services	Motioned		2 nd			Approved
Resolution No. 33-20	Authorization to Request Funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation	2 nd		Motioned			Approved
Resolution No. 34-20	Ratification of Joint Use Preservation Management and Maintenance Agreement and Amendment with Marina Lofts Acquisitions, LLC	Motioned	2 nd				Approved

The mission of Metroparks of the Toledo Area is to conserve the region's natural resources by creating, developing, improving, protecting, and promoting clean, safe, and natural parks and open spaces for the benefit, enjoyment, education, and general welfare of the public.



Board Minutes

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020, 8:30 A.M.
VIDEO CONFERENCE – LIVE STREAM

Commissioners Present:

Scott Savage, President
Fritz Byers, Vice President
Lera Doneghy, Vice President
Molly Luetke, Officer
Kevin Dalton, Officer

Dave Zenk, Executive Director

Dave Smigelski, Legal Counsel

Staff Present: Matt Cleland, Jill Molnar, Allen Gallant, Ally Effler, Carrie Alexander, Emily Ziegler, Joe Fausnaugh, Matt Killam, Scott Carpenter, Tim Schetter, Joe Fausnaugh, Jen Elsworth and Bethany Sattler.

Others Present: Dave Gedeon, Vice President of Transportation, TMACOG

1. NON-RESOLUTION BOARD ITEMS

President Scott Savage called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Savage led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Fritz Byers made a motion to approve the consent agenda and for the disposition of the minutes for the regular Board meeting held on April 22, 2020. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Lera Doneghy and approved.

3. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT FOR REVIEW

A. This Summer at Metroparks Toledo – Staff

Mr. Joe Fausnaugh provided an update of operations at Metroparks, as the park district continues to adapt to the evolving situation with the pandemic. One recent development is the imminent reopening of campsites and cabins throughout the park system, with camping restrictions lifted throughout the state. Metroparks' adjustments to the reservation process include restricting rentals to only individuals in the same household and not allowing out-of-state renters, along with increasing sanitation protocols. Additionally, Metroparks is creating temporary

campsites at Pearson Metropark, the Anderson Property and Blue Creek Metropark to accommodate a large demand for camping. The goal is to double the number of cabins available for rent with the opening of the Cannaley Treehouse Village later this summer. Additionally, the kayak concessions and kayak self-share rentals are planned to open in the coming weeks, weather permitting. Metroparks is implementing safety measures for staff and additional sanitation to keep this program as safe as possible.

Ms. Jen Elsworth provided an overview of Metroparks' planned virtual summer camp offerings. The first camp series will be similar to the activities that have been ongoing, which offer a free camp experience with downloadable materials, videos and nature bags that can be utilized at each participant's home.

Metroparks will also offer a paid summer camp including one live virtual naturalist session each week, along with the delivery of materials to allow for campers to complete a week's worth of activities at home. Metroparks is partnering with Toledo Museum of Art and Nature's Nursery to provide the programming. In addition, a partnership with Jupmode will create shirts for each camper. Metroparks completed a test run of this concept to ensure the program would be well received and that the delivery of materials and content was done in a manner accessible to interested participants. This format for camp will be utilized at least through June, and Metroparks will reassess offering in-person camp experience options in July.

Mr. Matt Killam provided an update on additional programming planned for the summer and adaptations made for those programs. The first new program, which is already underway, is a partnership with community agencies serving children to distribute Explorer Bags to children with their weekly meal pick-ups to 600-1,000 children. This program serves children who would traditionally participate in the Connections Camp experiences. Additionally, Metroparks has developed programs like Story Time, games, and other interactive activities to keep the community engaged with Metroparks. Registration for some traditional programs will begin soon with safety adaptations, including paddle sports, archery, forest therapy, tree climbing and cycling. Metroparks further has provided safety education to inform the public on safety measures and compliance with social distancing requirements. Metroparks Toledo face masks also have been distributed to the community through various partners. Metroparks has embraced new technology to keep park users engaged, including a new birding app to help fill the gap in the Biggest Week in Birding, a virtual trivia program, and a virtual experience for National Public Gardens Week to highlight Toledo Botanical Garden.

Mr. Killam provided an update on projects throughout the park system that are planned for the summer. Major projects include openings of new trailheads, the Accessible Garden at Toledo Botanical Garden, the Cannaley Treehouse Village, Cannonball Prairie Metropark, Manhattan Marsh, and the first phase of Glass City Metropark. The opening celebrations surrounding these long-anticipated projects will be adapted to ensure community members have an opportunity to experience them, but in a safe and compliant manner.

Mr. Savage expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Board for the continued hard work and adaptability of the entire Metroparks staff. Mr. Zenk echoed that sentiment and expressed that the Metroparks' efforts to maintain the Clean, Safe, Natural expectation is something to be immensely proud of and celebrated.

B. Matt Cleland, Deputy Director & Treasurer – Treasurer's Report

Mr. Matt Cleland pointed out highlights from the Treasurer's Report, including a significant decline and delay in the intergovernmental income expected at this point in the year. Those funds are still expected to arrive, but on a delayed timeframe. Additionally, earned revenue through rentals and program fees has declined due to the closing of facilities and decline in programs necessitated by the pandemic, along with refunds issued for cancelled programs and reservations. In addition, Metroparks' investment returns are expected to be lower due to decreased rates during this timeframe.

Mr. Cleland discussed the anticipated impact and adjustments to overcome the decline in revenue. Budget holders park system-wide were asked to review their budgets for areas that could be reduced if needed. Metroparks has engaged in worst-case scenario planning to prepare to accommodate all possibilities, with the goal for revenues to rebound at a slightly higher level the remainder of the year as programs are able to resume. The intent is to

manage the adjustments in the current fiscal year in an effort not to affect projects already planned for future years.

Mr. Byers inquired into the rental and program refund process. Mr. Cleland explained that Metroparks provided refunds for all large events that initially were cancelled, and refunded all cancelled program and rental fees. Individuals whose events were cancelled had the opportunity to reschedule their events as available. For example, Metroparks has offered priority for reopened campsite reservations to individuals whose prior reservations were cancelled.

4. BOARD APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS, DEEDS, AGREEMENTS, ETC.

- A. Mrs. Doneghy offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Ms. Molly Luetke:

Resolution No. 29-20– Ratification of Schedule of Payables - April

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- B. Ms. Luetke offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Kevin Dalton:

Resolution No. 30-20 – Approval of Supplement and Amendment of the 2020 Certificate of Estimated Resources and Appropriations Measure

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- C. Mrs. Doneghy offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Byers:

Resolution No. 31-20 – Designation of Law Enforcement Personnel

Mr. Fausnaugh explained that Metroparks recently hired three new rangers: one full-time and two part-time. He expounded on the quality and experience that the rangers will bring to Metroparks.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- D. Mr. Byers offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mrs. Doneghy:

Resolution No. 32-20 – Contract Approval, Glass City Metropark Professional Surveying Services

Mr. Tim Schetter explained that this Resolution would approve Lewandowski Engineers to complete additional surveying work at Glass City Metropark. This firm has already completed extensive surveying work at that site and is best situated to provide additional services.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- E. Mrs. Doneghy offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Byers:

Resolution No. 33-20 – Authorization to Request Funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation

Mr. Allen Gallant explained this resolution amends a prior resolution due to changes in the matching amount necessary to pursue the grant. Mr. Dave Gedeon, Vice President of Transportation for the Toledo Metropolitan

Area Council of Governments (“TMACOG”), attended the meeting as a representative of the partner agency on the grant application. Mr. Gedeon provided a brief history of the overall project to be funded around the Glass City Riverwalk. This grant would support the overall transportation elements associated with the project. TMACOG would be the grant administrator for the project, should funds be awarded. This grant partnership allows many agencies to come together to leverage the strengths of each and provide the best chance of being awarded the grant. Metroparks anticipates knowing the results of this grant application by September 2020. Mr. Zenk expressed his appreciation for the collaboration facilitated by TMACOG.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

- F. Mr. Byers offered and moved for adoption of the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Dalton:

Resolution No. 34-20 – Ratification of Joint Use Preservation Management and Maintenance Agreement and Amendment with Marina Lofts Acquisitions, LLC

Ms. Emily Ziegler explained this would create a partnership with Marina Lofts Acquisitions, LLC (“Marina Lofts”) to complete a bio swale drainage system.

After discussion and upon unanimous vote the resolution was declared duly adopted and recorded in the appendix to these minutes.

5. BOARD INITIATED TOPICS AND DISCUSSIONS

Mrs. Doneghy expressed her appreciation for Metroparks’ staff for all they have accomplished in the midst of the pandemic. Ms. Luetke seconded that expression of gratitude.

With no further business or action to be taken, Mrs. Doneghy made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:38 a.m., which was seconded by Ms. Luetke and approved.



Scott Savage, President

Attest: 

Dave Zenk, Executive Director

DDZ/bas
05/20/20