

**MINUTES OF THE JOHNNY APPLESEED METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONTHLY MEETING**

**8:00 a.m.  
September 15, 2015**

**2355 Ada Road  
Lima, OH 45801**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman, Cathy Ahman. Present was Commissioner, Bob Antibus, Kevin Bruin; Legal Advisor, Dale Vandemark; Staff, Chris Fetzer and Beth Theisen; Director, Kevin Haver and Recording Secretary, Denise Graham.

Bob Antibus made motion to approve the minutes for the July 29, 2015 meeting as submitted. Kevin Bruin seconded. The motion passed.

Kevin Haver reported the following:

- Attended a few meetings recently regarding the Spencerville Elgin Railroad located west of Lima. The Port Authority owns the railroad and wants to sell part of the right-a-way to convert to a rail-trail. There will be a meeting on September 22 to discuss this possibility.
- Kevin has given several park tours to interested persons in the last month.
- A group from Ford Motor Company has been meeting in the McElroy Center since the latter part of August.
- A construction meeting will be held today at Hermon Woodlands. The contractor is preparing to pour the pads for the shelter houses. Work continues on the trails.
- A dedication with the Hermon family will take place on October 24. If the shelters aren't completed the event will be held in the pole building.
- The Interpretive Services Coordinator position has not been filled at this time.
- On September 1, met with Phil Enderle of the Collaborative to discuss the Lauer Historical Farm project. Phil recommended Choice One Engineering out of Sidney to plan the infrastructure of the park.
- Technicon will be handling the bid package for the new barn at the Allen County Farm Park.
- The Cooperative Park Improvement Grant Program bid packets have been sent out to the political subdivisions.

Vince Sarno reported the following:

- The parks were cleaned, mowed, trimmed and power washed for the July 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day weekends.
- The beach was closed 20 out of 79 possible days to be opened. The attendance was up 1069 people from 2014.
- Painted/stained trash cans, tables, grills, family shelters etc. at all of the Parks.

Chris Fetzer reported the following:

- The 2015 Summer Amphitheater Series had a total of 1487 people in attendance. The cost for entertainment this year was \$2,800.00. Several people have commented that a sound system is needed for the entertainers.

Beth Theisen reported the following:

- Helped with the Allen County Fair programs in August. Several school groups are scheduled for programs and hikes this fall. 65 people attended the first Walking Thru Autumn program on September 12.

Bob O'Connor submitted a written report with the following information:

- On August 4, the Park District and Shawnee Township Police Department held National Night Out at Heritage Park with 800 -1000 people in attendance.
- Dog Day at the Beach was held on August 22.
- On August 24, the Ranger Department helped with the fishing derby at the Allen County Fair. On August 29, Richard presented a program on invasive species at the Fair.
- During the months of August and September the Ranger Department made three arrests at Ft. Amanda Park. One case has been through the Auglaize County Court and currently waiting on the other two court dates.

Dale Vandemark reported the following:

- The land donation of 6 acres in Beaverdam is complete and the Park District Foundation now owns it. The property has been put up for sale.

Bob Antibus asked about the available property located on Columbus Grove-Bluffton Road and Little Riley Creek next to Motter Metro Park. Two of the three parcels are owned by Waldo Buroker. The third parcel is owned by Robert Garmatter. If all three are offered as gifts, it would square up the boundary line of the park. Dick Ramseyer from Bluffton is working on plans for a bikeway through Bluffton with a portion of it traveling over the corner of Motter Park.

Bob Antibus moved that the July 2015 Monthly Budget Update be approved as submitted. Kevin Bruin seconded. The motion passed.

Bob Antibus moved that the August 2015 Monthly Budget Update be approved as submitted. Kevin Bruin seconded. The motion passed.

Bob Antibus moved that the July 2015 Bills be approved as submitted. Kevin Bruin seconded. The motion passed.

Bob Antibus moved that the August 2015 Bills be approved as submitted. Kevin Bruin seconded. The motion passed.

Kevin reported the following on project status:

Hermon Woodlands

- The restroom for Hermon Woodlands was delivered a few weeks ago and installed. The restroom was delivered in 2 pieces with the first piece weighing 71,000 lb. and the 2<sup>nd</sup> piece weighed 83,000 lb. The contractor poured too much concrete for the sidewalks and 25 feet will need to be removed. Pedestal lights will be installed along the walkway. The trail contractor has all of the material needed for the bridges. One bridge is 65 feet and the other two bridges are 45 feet in length. The trail system is compacted limestone. A dedication will take place with the Hermon family on October 24.  
The Hermon Park project overall is moving along slowly. There needs to be more people on the job. A penalty clause wasn't used because an incentive clause would have had to be included according to industry professionals. It is a concern that the window of time for

planting grass seed is almost past with the ideal time frame 8/15-9/15. The Park District will need to apply to Clean Ohio Fund for a project completion extension.

#### Allen County Farm Park Barn

- A 60'x80' barn will be built at the Allen County Farm Park. The original location for the barn has been moved due to drainage issues. It will be built on the east side of the bank barn and run north and south. A porch on the barn was previously discussed to be used for special events. The porch cannot be included as planned due to square footage overage for fire suppression.

#### Lauer Historical Farm

- Met with Phil Enderle of the Collaborative regarding the Lauer Historical Farm. Phil recommended Choice One Engineering to plan the infrastructure of the park. The Park District should receive a proposal soon and hope to have it by the October Board meeting. The project will proceed as planned except for the Visitor's Center. The parking lots will be part of the infrastructure. It will be a phased project with 1-1.5 million to be spent in 2016 and 1-1.5 million to be spent in 2017 and open to the public in 2018. Possibly a visitor's center can be donated.

#### Motter Metro Park

- The Motter Metro Park will be seeded with prairie seeds this fall.

#### New Business

Resolution 11-2015 was presented authorizing the Director-Secretary of the Park District to enter into contract for the purchase of a vehicle. This vehicle will replace the 2009 Ford Escape. Bob Antibus moved that Resolution 11-2015 be accepted. Kevin Bruin seconded and the motion passed.

Kevin Bruin requested that the next Board be held at Hermon Woodlands.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20 at 8:00 a.m. at Hermon Woodlands.

With no further business, Kevin Bruin made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 a.m. Bob Antibus seconded. The motion passed.

Cathy Ahman  
Chairman

Kevin L. Haver  
Director-Secretary