

## REGULAR MEETING

June 17, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Great Parks of Hamilton County was held on this day, 1:00 p.m., at 10245 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45231.

Board President Marcus Thompson opened the meeting and led the Board, staff, and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present were Commissioners: Thompson, Burwinkel, DeGraffenreid, Laverty, Seta

Staff: Palmeter, Henninger, Collins, Culman, deJesus, Messerschmitt, Rahe, Snow, Zelek, Robertson, Schroeder, Spencer, Bruce, Osinski, Schirmer, Bernzott, Ference

Guests: Alana Tucker, Scott Provancher, Kitty Strauss Rosenthal, Pastor Damon Lynch III, Kurt Irey, Scott Wartman

GENERAL

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS: No one requested to address the Board

2. AWARDS & RECOGNITION:

Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter notified the Board of the following:

- Chief of Guest Experiences Rachel Messerschmitt introduced Laura Schroeder, promoted to Golf Course Technician at Winton Woods.
- Chief of Guest Experiences Rachel Messerschmitt introduced new employee Rachel Robertson, Director of Guest Experiences – West Region.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATES:

Thursday	July 15, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Winton Centre
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Thursday	August 19, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Winton Centre
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4. ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Scott Provancher of Ignite Philanthropy and Kitty Strauss Rosenthal and Pastor Damon Lynch III., members of the Advisory Committee, presented their path forward strategy, endorsement, and recommendations. Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Laverty, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the Advisory Committee's recommendations. First, private fundraising should be a critical part of the Great Parks of Hamilton County's 10-year funding strategy. Second, Great Parks Forever should work to raise \$50 million in private support for Master Plan Projects to supplement public support.

The Board had extensive dialogue with Ignite and the Advisory Committee, including several questions and comments about the challenges of increasing the Philanthropic commitment

from \$30 million to \$50 million and how Great Parks can be more recognizable to the Philanthropic community.

### ACTION

5. RESOLUTION #3666 – BILLS & PAYROLL RESOLUTION: The Board submitted one payment item for review: Dudek for aerial infrared deer surveys. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the content and scope of the payment item and the results of the deer surveys. Upon motion duly made by Lavery, seconded by Thompson, the Board approved the Bills & Payroll Resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye.
6. RESOLUTION #3667 – TAX BUDGET 2022: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the 2022 Tax Budget. Upon motion duly made by DeGraffenreid, seconded by Lavery, the Board approved the 2022 Tax Budget as presented in the resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye.

The Board expressed their concerns about not meeting needs for capital projects in the five-year forecast, especially critical infrastructure.

7. DONATIONS: Upon motion duly made by DeGraffenreid, seconded by Burwinkel, and unanimously carried, the Board approved accepting the donations received during May 2021. The letter from the Judge of Probate Court approving acceptance of the terms of the gifts will be attached to the Final Minutes.
8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Lavery, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Final Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of May 20, 2021.
9. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT – SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN: Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by Lavery, and unanimously carried, the Board rejected all of the proposals. The Board instructed the staff to review the project scope, budget, and procedures and utilize the procedure for awarding contracts for professional design services.
10. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT – VIDEO PRODUCTION SERVICES SUPPLIER: Upon motion duly made by Lavery, seconded by Seta, and unanimously carried, the Board rejected all of the proposals. The Board instructed the staff to review the project scope and budget and utilize the procedure for awarding contracts for professional services.

### MONITORING REPORTS

11. FINANCIAL PLANNING/BUDGETING: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Financial Planning/Budgeting report. After a thorough discussion, the Board determined the report to be reasonable and acceptable. The Board then ordered the report filed for the record.

The Board asked several questions about how philanthropic contributions were noted on the report.

### GENERAL REPORTS

12. PHILANTHROPY DIVISION REPORT: Chief of Philanthropy Alicia Culman, Grants Manager Kara Schirmer, and Director of Corporate Relations Julie Bernzott presented the Philanthropy Division Report. After a thorough discussion, the Board determined the report to be reasonable and acceptable. The Board then ordered the report filed for the record.

The Board asked several questions about how projects will be marketed to attract philanthropic support.

13. ECONOMIC IMPACT: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Economic Impact report. After a thorough discussion, the Board determined the report to be reasonable and acceptable. The Board then ordered the report filed for the record.

The Board expressed how impressed they were about how Great Parks stimulates so much economic activity, including the increased overall economic impact from 2015 to 2020.

14. FUTURE FUNDING UPDATE: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the Future Funding Update report to the Board. The report focused on critical infrastructure needs, engagement with the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, Park & Facility Master Plan themes and preliminary cost summary, other Ohio park district levy information, Great Parks levy history, levy funding scenarios, and next steps.

The Board reviewed four levy scenarios presented by the Chief Executive Officer, including the amount of funding each scenario would provide for critical infrastructure needs and master plan projects. All scenarios accounted for philanthropic support. The Board expressed concerns that the levy scenarios with lower millage rates would not adequately address Great Parks' infrastructure needs. The Chief Executive Officer recommended a hold on this general report to allow time for staff to generate four additional scenarios that would address the Board's concerns for funding infrastructure needs. The Board agreed with the recommendation and ordered the first report be filed for the record.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Lavery and seconded by Seta to go into Executive Session at 3:00 p.m. to review pending or imminent court action and to consider the employment and compensation of public employees. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye.

Following the Executive Session, a motion was made by DeGraffenreid and seconded by Lavery to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 3:45 p.m. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye.

### GENERAL REPORTS

15. FUTURE FUNDING UPDATE (SECOND REPORT): Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented four additional levy scenarios that addressed the Board's concerns for funding infrastructure needs. After a thorough discussion, the Board determined the second report to be reasonable and acceptable. Accordingly, the Board ordered the second report filed for the record.

### ACTION

16. HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION: After a thorough review and discussion, the Board proposed three millage amounts for certification. The Board approved three Resolutions requesting the Hamilton County Auditor's Certification as follows:

RESOLUTION #3668 – RESOLUTION REQUESTING HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION FOR CURRENT VALUATION OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL 1.0 MILL LEVY. Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Lavery, the Board approved Resolution #3668 requesting Hamilton County Auditor's Certification for Current Valuation of Proposed Additional 1.0 mill levy. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye.

RESOLUTION #3669 – RESOLUTION REQUESTING HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION FOR CURRENT VALUATION OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL 1.18 MILL LEVY. Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by Lavery, the Board approved Resolution #3669 requesting Hamilton County Auditor's Certification for Current Valuation of Proposed Additional 1.18 mill levy. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye.

RESOLUTION #3670– RESOLUTION REQUESTING HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION FOR CURRENT VALUATION OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL 1.25 MILL LEVY. Upon motion duly made by Lavery, seconded by Seta, the Board approved Resolution #3670 requesting Hamilton County Auditor's Certification for Current Valuation of Proposed Additional 1.25 mill levy. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. Lavery – Aye. Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Board, a motion was made by Lavery, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4.00 p.m.

Board of Park Commissioners  
Great Parks of Hamilton County

  
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Marcus L. Thompson, President  
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William J. Burwinkel  
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Stacey DeGraffenreid  
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Caren Lavery  
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Joseph C. Seta

ATTEST:

  
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Todd Palmetier, Chief Executive Officer