REGULAR MEETING

October 21, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Great Parks of Hamilton County held on this day, 3:00 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, Rahe, Snow, Zelek, Banks, Bird, Ferrell, Slakmon, Sivak, Spencer, Steele, Ballinger, Ference
Guests: Jim Wilz, Ann Frederick

GENERAL

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

2. AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter notified the Board of the following:
  • Ranger Chief Scott Snow introduced new employee Steve Ballinger, Ranger at Shawnee Lookout
  • Rachel Meserschmitt, Chief of Guest Experiences, was selected for the Forty Under 40 award. This year marks the 26th anniversary of the Cincinnati Business Courier’s program that honors the next generation of leaders and innovators in greater Cincinnati.
  • Becky Osinski, Regional Planning Coordinator, was selected to serve on the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber’s Next Gen Connected Region Initiative. The Connected Region Initiative focuses on developing a transportation system that connects people to jobs, education, and health care.
  • Marcus Thompson, Board President, was selected for the 2020 Seton Hill University Distinguished Alumni Leadership Award for Young Alumnus Achievement. Marcus is a 2008 Communications graduate of Seton Hill.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATES:

  Thursday       November 18, 2021       1:00 p.m.       Winton Centre
  Thursday       December 16, 2021       1:00 p.m.       Winton Centre
4. RESOLUTION #3687 – BILLS & PAYROLL RESOLUTION: Upon motion duly made by Laverty, seconded by Burwinkel, the Board approved the Bills & Payroll Resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Laverty – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye.

5. DONATIONS: Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board approved accepting the donations received during August 2021. The letter from the Judge of Probate Court approving acceptance of the terms of the gifts will be attached to the Final Minutes.

Mr. Burwinkel thanked everyone who attended the Rootball and for their continuing support of Great Parks.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon motion duly made by Laverty, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Final Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 16, 2021.

7. BID TAB – EMBSHOFF WOODS WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS REBID: Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded a contract in the amount of $219,213 to Precise Boring of Ohio, LLC for the Embshoff Woods Wastewater Improvements Rebid.

8. BID TAB – RECYCLING RECEPTACLES: Sustainability Coordinator Moran Slakmon described the recycling receptacles to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Laverty, seconded by Seta, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of $76,175.60 to Agathos Lab, Inc. for the purchase and delivery of 370 recycling receptacles.

9. CAPITAL PURCHASE – TRIPLEX MOWERS: Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Laverty, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase in the amount of $70,910.46 to Greenville Turf & Tractor for two triplex mowers.

10. PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES CONTRACT – SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN REBID: Sustainability Coordinator Moran Slakmon explained the scope and purpose of the Sustainability Action Plan to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded a professional design services contract in the amount of $93,500 to M+A Architects for the development of the Sustainability Action Plan Rebid.
MONITORING REPORTS

11. FINANCIAL CONDITIONS & ACTIVITIES: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Financial Conditions & Activities 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.

12. COMPENSATION & BENEFITS: Chief of Human Resources Molly deJesus presented the Compensation & Benefits 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.

GENERAL REPORTS

13. PURCHASING CARD COMPLIANCE OFFICER: Guest Relations Coordinator Morgan Banks presented the Purchasing Card Compliance Officer report. The Board ordered the report filed for the record.

14. BOARD TOUR DISCUSSION:

Board President Marcus Thompson thanked the staff for the experience and enjoyed interacting with the Great Parks’ team. Mr. Thompson commented on the value of connectivity resulting from Great Parks being a leader in trail projects.

Mr. Burwinkel expressed his appreciation for how much Great Parks is doing in the City of Cincinnati.

Ms. Laverty thought the tour was a great way for the Board to see all Great Parks projects and thanked the staff for a fantastic job.

Ms. DeGraffenreid said that the tour was well planned, and it was nice to see the parks.

Mr. Seta said that this was his eleventh tour, and they get better every year.

Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter thanked the Board for the opportunity to showcase Great Parks projects and regional trails in the City of Cincinnati and our fourth busiest park, Woodland Mound. He also thanked the staff for preparing the interactive stops, presentations, and lunch.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Seta and seconded by Laverty to go into Executive Session at 3:40 p.m. to consider the sale or other disposition of property. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. Laverty – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye.

Following the Executive Session, a motion was made by Laverty and seconded by Seta to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 4:15 p.m. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Laverty – Aye.

15. LAND ITEM: Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Laverty, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the CEO and his designees to negotiate a land acquisition proposal and to execute the necessary documents for a 5-acre parcel in the western region of Hamilton County.

16. LAND ITEM: Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the CEO and his designees to negotiate a land acquisition proposal and to execute the necessary documents for a 34-acre parcel in the central region of Hamilton County.
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Board, a motion was made by Laverty, seconded by Seta, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Board of Park Commissioners
Great Parks of Hamilton County

Marcus L. Thompson, President

William J. Burwinkel

Stacey DeGraffenreid

Caren Laverty

Joseph C. Seta

ATTEST:

Todd Palmeter, Chief Executive Officer