

REGULAR MEETING

November 18, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Great Parks of Hamilton County 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, Conrad, King, Parr, Unkrich, Schirmer, Starr, Bird, Steele, Strader, Roselle, McClure, Ferrell, Ference

Guests: Jim Berns, Ronald Lake, Greg Grimm, Sandy Grimm

GENERAL

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jim Berns attended the meeting and addressed the Board regarding the additional 0.95 mill tax levy.

2. AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

Board President Marcus Thompson presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Ronald Lake. Ronald retired as Conservation & Parks Technician on July 30, 2021, with twenty-eight years of service.

Board President Marcus Thompson presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Greg Grimm. Greg retired as Ranger Patrol Lieutenant on August 17, 2021, with twenty-eight years of service.

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

- Chief of Conservation & Parks Jason Rahe introduced new employee Abbey King, Conservation & Parks Administrator.
- Chief of Conservation & Parks Jason Rahe introduced new employee Kayla Parr, Conservation & Parks Technician, Winton Woods.
- Chief of Conservation & Parks Jason Rahe introduced newly promoted employee Rick Conrad, Director of Conservation & Parks, Central Region.
- Chief of Guest Experiences Rachel Messerschmitt introduced newly promoted employee Anthony Unkrich, Merchandising Manager.
- Updated Board of Park Commissioners photo on the Great Parks Leadership webpage.
- Great Parks received a \$6 million Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant for the Glenwood Gardens to Winton Woods Shared Use Path.

- Great Parks received three Ohio Parks & Recreation Association Awards
 - 1st Place for Management Innovation: Great Parks Green Team Powered by Groundwork Ohio River Valley.
 - 3rd Place for Capital Improvement Projects – Up to \$1.0 Million: Accessible Kayak & Canoe Launch at Winton Woods.
 - 3rd Place for Environmental & Interpretive Programs & Events: Great Parks Urban Farming Festival.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATES:

Thursday	December 16, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Winton Centre
Thursday	January 20, 2022	1:00 p.m.	Winton Centre

ACTION

4. RESOLUTION #3688 – BILLS & PAYROLL RESOLUTION: The Board submitted two payment items for review: Darwin LLC for Master Plan Brand Strategy services and Superion LLC for Asset Management software and implementation. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the content and scope of the payment items. Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Laverty, 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. RESOLUTION #3689 – THEN & NOW RESOLUTION: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Then & Now Resolution. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the criteria of a Then & Now transaction. Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by DeGraffenreid, the Board approved the Then and Now explanations presented in the resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. Laverty – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye.
6. RESOLUTION #3690 – BUDGET ADJUSTMENT: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Budget Adjustment Resolution. Upon motion duly made by Laverty, seconded by Thompson, the Board approved the Budget Adjustment Resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Laverty – Aye.

7. RESOLUTION #3691 – RESOLUTION RENEWING THE INVESTMENT POLICY: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Resolution Renewing the Investment Policy. The staff led a thorough discussion, clarifying information on the Investment Policy content, authorized investments, and the increased the single financial institution investment amount. Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Lavery, the Board approved the Investment Policy as presented in the resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye.
8. DONATIONS: Upon motion duly made by DeGraffenreid, seconded by Burwinkel, and unanimously carried, the Board approved accepting the donations received during October 2021. The letter from the Judge of Probate Court approving acceptance of the terms of the gifts will be attached to the Final Minutes.
9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon motion duly made by Lavery, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Final Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 21, 2021.
10. RESCIND RESOLUTION #3680 – LITTLE MIAMI RIVER ACCESS AT BASS ISLAND – RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY AND EXECUTE AN APPLICATION UNDER ODNR LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM: Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Lavery, and unanimously carried, the Board rescinded Resolution #3680.
11. BID TAB – FLEET VEHICLE PURCHASES: Upon motion duly made by Lavery, seconded by Seta, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$332,869 to Feldman Ford for fleet vehicle purchases.

Mr. Seta enquired about auction items on GovDeals and if Great Parks had minimum reserve bids on these items. Mr. Burwinkel asked about the bidding process and the difference between a capital purchase and a legal bid.
12. CAPITAL PURCHASE – SKID STEER LOADER: Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase in the amount of \$53,198.26 to Clark Equipment Company dba Bobcat Company for a skid steer loader.
13. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT – DONOR DATABASE SERVICES: Upon motion duly made by Seta, seconded by Lavery, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded a professional services contract to Blackbaud, Inc. in the amount of \$13,898.88 for donor database services.

GENERAL REPORTS

14. PUBLIC PROGRAMMING – MEADOW LINKS & GOLF ACADEMY: Golf Professional Matt Starr presented the Public Programming at Meadow Links & Golf Academy report to the Board. 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 thanked the staff for the informative nature of the report.

15. GREAT PARKS BRAND PROJECT UPDATE: Chief of Philanthropy Alicia Culman presented the Great Parks Brand Project Update report to the Board. 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 thanked the staff for the informative nature of the report and asked questions on what issues the brand refresh will solve.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Seta and seconded by Lavery to go into Executive Session at 2:17 p.m. to consider the sale or other disposition of property. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye.


Following the Executive Session, a motion was made by Burwinkel and seconded by DeGraffenreid to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 3:12 p.m. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Seta – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. DeGraffenreid – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye.


16. LAND ITEM: Upon a motion duly made by Lavery, seconded by Seta, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the CEO and his designees to negotiate with Duke Energy and to execute the necessary documents for a public utility easement in the central region of Hamilton County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Board, a motion was made by Burwinkel, seconded by DeGraffenreid, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Board of Park Commissioners
Great Parks of Hamilton County



Marcus L. Thompson, President

William J. Burwinkel

Stacey DeGraffenreid

Caren Lavery

Joseph C. Seta

ATTEST:



Bret Henninger, Chief Operating Officer