

**WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
8/9/2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sandy Wiechman at 3:00 p.m. at the Carter Historic Farm, 18331 Carter Road, Bowling Green, OH. 43402.

2. ROLL CALL

Sandy Wiechman, present
Kim Rose, present
Denny Parish, present
Tom Myers, present
Bill Cameron, present

Staff present: Eric Scott, Andrew Kalmar, Tom Belcher, Corinne Gordon, Diana Ziems, Jim Witter, Chris Smalley, Steve Thomson, Rob Brian

Members of the Press: Roger LaPointe (Sentinel Tribune), Jan Larson McLaughlin (BG Independent News), Jane Maiolo (Perrysburg Messenger)

Guests: Candace Weis (Friends of the Parks)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Wiechman stated the minutes of the 7/12/2022 meeting was distributed to the board prior to the meeting. She asked for a motion to approve these minutes. Mr. Myers moved approval of the meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Rose seconded. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Wiechman stated she had nothing to report.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Smalley stated the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Bowling Green for joint prescribed fire management formalizes the agreement with the City of Bowling Green. He stated the Memorandum of Understanding has been reviewed by both parties and their attorneys. Mr. Smalley stated he is waiting to hear from our insurance company on their review. He also stated he would not move forward with the memorandum until we hear from the insurance company. Ms. Wiechman stated resolution 22-016 by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wood County Park District allowing Park District Director Chris Smalley to enter into an agreement with the City of Bowling Green for the purpose of a memorandum of understanding regarding prescribed fire management. Mr. Cameron moved to approve resolution 22-016. Mr. Parish seconded. Mr. Myers inquired if Mr. Smalley thought there would be any reason

the insurance company would have an issue with the MOA for prescribed fires. Mr. Smalley stated the City of Bowling Green's insurance company wanted to make sure liability limits were at their coverage level. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Smalley stated there were an assortment of flyers and information for the board members to review at their leisure. He stated one of the flyers is regarding the Heritage Farm Fest at Carter Historic Farm, Saturday, October 1st from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. He also mentioned a flyer for the upcoming open house for the Northwest Water and Sewer District, August 16th, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mr. Smalley also advised of the new guide/map for the State Water Trail for the Portage River that was dedicated last month. Jim Witter advised that Wood County Park District is featured on the western-most point on the trail guide. Mr. Witter stated the point of the water trail guide is to point out the opportunities that are available, public access points on the Portage River, and increase awareness and information about the access points featured in the guide.

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Ms. Wiechman stated the departmental reports were distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Parish inquired on basement damage at Thompson Stone Hall reported in Mr. Kalmar's report. Mr. Kalmar stated there is damage to the beams on the west end of the basement. Mr. Kalmar also stated a structural engineer offered that it was possible water may have infiltrated the beam through the chimney. He stated it was later discovered water may have been filtering down the side of the building. Mr. Kalmar stated a plan needs worked on to have those beams repaired and stated it is not a structural issue. Mr. Parish asked if the beams need replaced. Mr. Kalmar stated they do not need replaced. He stated the beams need cleaned out, broken concrete needs cleared and new concrete cast around the beams. Mr. Parish inquired on the vacation accruals listed on Mr. Kalmar's report, and if all Wood County Park District employees will be in compliance with state law. Mr. Kalmar stated all employees will be in compliance with the Wood County Park District employee manual, which was approved by the Board of Park Commissioners. Mr. Parish inquired on how many employees were over the accrual limit. Mr. Kalmar advised four employees over the accrual limit. He advised three employees will be in compliance within about two weeks, and one employee by the end of the year. Mr. Parish inquired on the 400 fence posts listed from Mr. Kalmar's report, and if they will be installed by Park District employees. Mr. Kalmar stated they are working on different plans involving scenarios of installation. Mr. Parish inquired on the acre plot of land in Perrysburg Township listed in Mr. Kalmar's report and if that is property the Park District owns now and we're giving it back, or are they giving it to us. Mr. Kalmar stated the Wood County Park District owns it now, and have owned it for approximately 40 years. He stated it was set aside for green space back at that time, but in the last two years the Wood County Commissioners transferred their portion of the adjacent plot to Perrysburg Township. Mr. Parish inquired if the Park District's portion of the plot is adjacent to any other current park property. Mr. Kalmar stated it is not adjacent to our current property.

7. APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Ms. Wiechman state the payables were distributed prior to the meeting and called for a motion to approve. Mr. Myers motioned to approve the payables. Mr. Parish seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, with all in favor. Motion carried.

8. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was raised.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Parish inquired on the status of the property next to Buttonwood Park. He recalled efforts to be made by June 30th to reduce the dike. Mr. Smalley stated there appears to be no changes at the dike wall. Mr. Parish asked if the planning commission is aware that no effort has been made on the dike wall. Mr. Smalley stated according to the planning commission last month, the homeowner has until September to make progress at reducing the dike wall. They were also meeting with the Wood County Engineers office to review historic data to determine the size of the dike in the past. Mr. Parish stated since this issue is still apparent, the park district is not investing any great funds into the Buttonwood Park area. Mr. Smalley stated Buttonwood Park remains a minimal park with public access to the Maumee river with basic services, including a picnic table and portable toilet unit. Mr. Witter stated even though Buttonwood Park only has basic services, programming is still being run at the park, including a River Wading program and a catfishing tournament coming up in September. Mr. Parish inquired on the parking capacity at Buttonwood Park. Mr. Smalley stated there is parking along the west side of Hull Prairie Road, and a small gravel lot that holds about 15 to 20 vehicles.

10. FRIENDS OF THE WOOD COUNTY PARKS

Candace Weis stated the Friends are having a Fall Native Plant Sale that will focus on fall shrubs and flowering plants. Ms. Weis stated the Friends will potentially be paying for the prizes for the Scarecrow Contest at Heritage Farm Fest. Ms. Weis stated the Friends will be having a bird seed sale through Mid Wood in Bowling Green. She stated due to the rising cost of black bird seed, the Friends are anticipating a lower fundraising amount from the bird seed sale. Ms. Weis stated the Photo Contest deadline is coming up November 30th. Ms. Weis also mentioned the Little Lending Library at Cedar Creeks Preserve. Mr. Parish inquired on the prize funding amounts for the Scarecrow Contest. Ms. Weis stated the adult's first prize is \$150.00, and the children's first prize is \$50.00. Mr. Parish offered to donate the \$200.00 total funds for the Scarecrow Contest. Mr. Smalley thanked Ms. Weis for the Friend's help with the Wood County Park District tent at the Wood County Fair.

11. HEARING OF VISITORS

No visitors heard.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session this meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Parish moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Rose seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.



Sandra Wiechman, Chair



Chris Smalley, Director

Wood County Park District Headquarters, 18297 Mercer Rd., Bowling Green, OH. 43402