

MIAMI COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, November 4, 2025
Lost Creek Reserve Cabin
9 a.m. Meeting Minutes

Present: Dr. Robert Malarkey, Jay Meyer, Scott Myers, Cinda Hanbuch-Pinkerton, Dale Gade, Chris Thompson and Janeen Selanders.

MINUTES - Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve the minutes from September 30, 2025, seconded by Mr. Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

BILLS AND RECEIPTS - Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve the bills and receipts as presented, seconded by Mr. Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

DONATIONS - Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to accept the donations and volunteer hours as presented, seconded by Mr. Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. RESOLUTION 1666-25 - Approval of transfers 9/30/2025 through 10/25/2025 – Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1666-25, seconded by Mr. Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Foundation – Scott said Jim Ranft was joined the foundation board and they are meeting with another potential candidate soon. With the addition of Mr. Ranft, that makes for five members confirmed. Dr. Malarkey asked when the Board of Park Commissioner will meet with the Foundation Board. Scott said there will be an annual meeting, possibly more but dates aren't confirmed yet.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Staff Reports

- a. Operations - Dale passed around photos of current projects. Staff has been through chainsaw training.

There are some boards needing replaced at the Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary boardwalk. It has only been 6 years but the moisture along the trail is likely the reason.

The port-o-jons now have a shelter around them at Hobart Urban Nature Preserve and Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary.

The staff is still in the process of honeysuckle removal.

- b. Marketing – Amanda was absent. Scott said the Presenting Sponsorship for the Holiday Lights was raised from \$10,000 to \$12,000 this year and the other levels will be increased in 2026.

- c. Environmental Education – Cinda said she had a request for an out of county school that would love to incorporate the Hug the Earth program in their school. Our staff is maxed out with the current programming, so it is important to not overextend our capabilities, but we don't want to turn the opportunity down to teach and share with others since we have a "Science Journey" program developed and available that would not take much effort and time. The funds still available were through the Lundgard grant. After some discussion, the board suggested that Cinda and Scott discuss the options and make the decision.
- d. Executive – Scott said the law enforcements accreditation is set for November 12th. Scott, Dan and Olivia will be attending.

There was discussion on the 2026 Board meeting dates. They are now as follows:

- January 13
- February 24
- March 31
- May 5
- June 23
- July 28
- September 1
- September 22
- November 10
- December 15

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Property & Personnel - There was no executive session.

Mrs. Gutmann motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Meyer, motion unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned 9:56 a.m.

J. Scott Myers

Dr. Robert Malarkey