

MIAMI COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 27, 2025
Lost Creek Reserve Cabin
9 a.m. Meeting Minutes

Present: Dr. Robert Malarkey, Jay Meyer, Elizabeth Gutmann, Scott Myers, Cinda Hanbuch-Pinkerton, Dan Weaver, Dale Gade, Chris Thompson, Amanda Smith, Janeen Selanders, Dexter Hicks III and guests included Dexter Hick II, Krishel Hicks and daughter Sophia.

MINUTES – Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve the minutes from April 22, 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. Mr. Meyer asked how to find the carry-over on the monthly report. Chris said it is at the top under beginning/ending balances.

DONATIONS – There were no donations to approve.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **RESOLUTION 1651-25** – Approval of transfers 1/1/25 through 5/20/25 - Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1651-25, seconded by Mr. Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Foundation – The Miami County Parks Forever board met last week and has put together a list of potential board members and will present a proposal to them for why they should join the board. There will be a total of eight members including the current three members.

OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Staff Reports
 - a. Deputy Director – Kevin was absent. Scott said they did meet with ODNR about the deer survey at Hobart Urban Nature Preserve. There were no decisions made but they are informed, and we will keep them updated.
 - b. Operations – Dale distributed photos of current and completed projects including the chip and seal and restroom flooring projects at Charleston Falls Preserve and Garbry Big Woods Reserve. The cabin restoration project has begun; prairie burns were completed at Charleston Falls Preserve and trail improvements were made to the picnic area at Garbry Big Woods Reserve.

- c. Marketing – Amanda has added links in her digital report of the articles published locally. There were several stories about the Hug the Earth Festival.

Amanda was asked to join the steering committee for the Miami Valley Regional Active Transportation Plan in Piqua. This will be a good opportunity to strengthen our connection within that community.

Amanda said we are less than 10 followers away from 24,000 on our Facebook page.

- d. Environmental Education – Cinda said the Hug the Earth festival went well and we have great photos and information to submit for the report requirements for grants. There were approximately 5,000 guests at the festival. Amanda pointed out the amount of funding that Leigh Ann Gerardi obtained for the festival was approximately 30,000 which paid for many of the activities, mainly from local service clubs. Leigh Ann did a great job.

Cinda would like to increase the number of trained staff and/or volunteers so we can increase the number of participants that can go through the tower adventures.

- e. Executive – Scott had no addition to his written report. The next meeting will be June 17 instead of June 24.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Property & Personnel - There was no executive session.

Elizabeth Gutmann motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned 10 a.m.

J. Scott Myers

Dr. Robert Malarkey