

**MIAMI COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023
Cabin at Lost Creek Reserve
8 a.m. Work Session - 9 a.m. Meeting**

Present: Dr. Robert Malarkey, Elizabeth Gutmann, Jay Meyer, Scott Myers, Kevin Swanson, Chris Thompson, Dale Gade, Cinda Hanbuch-Pinkerton, Amanda Smith and Janeen Selanders.

MINUTES – Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 27, 2023 board meeting seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

BILLS AND RECEIPTS – Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to approve the bills and receipts as presented, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS – Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to approve the gifts and donations as presented, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. RESOLUTION 1309-19 – Revision - Credit Card Compliance policy updates - Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1309-19 Revisions as presented, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.
- B. RESOLUTION 1563-23 – Transfers 5/18/23 through 7/18/23 - Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1563-23 as presented, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.
- C. RESOLUTION 1564-23 – Environmental Education school grant awards for 2023-2024 - Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1564-23 as presented, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Foundation - Amanda distributed information and has been working with Kevin of the National Associations of Park Foundations. The membership fee we are paying to the organization grants us assistance in the foundation transition process. The new foundation will also manage the Barbara Sharkey Shook Bikeway Enhancement Fund at The Troy Foundation. The fund for Miami County's bikeway maps, signs, etc. The Board of Park Commission thanked Amanda for her work on the project and appreciate seeing progress.

OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Staff Reports
 - a. Deputy Director - Kevin spoke about the ODOT funds and future projects. The Board of Park Commission said the new viewing platforms at Springcreek Confluence are great additions. Mrs. Gutmann added that the new parking lot at Maple Ridge looks great too.

Kevin added that the mitigation project at John A. Wannemacher continues, and the Park District will likely offer a public meeting for the neighborhood to address any concerns they may have.

b. Operations - Dale said three new benches have been installed. He spoke about the weather damage on the bikeway between Eldean Rd. and Piqua. He said the staff put a lot of time to get the trees/branches cleaned up.

In July the park canoes were used for a cleanup. It was part of a 4 section clean up. There was 1.7 tons of trash removed just in the one section and a total of 5.6 tons removed from Sidney to Dayton.

ODNR recently visited Goode Prairie Preserve and Greenville Falls. They were pleased with the care of the properties. They have asked Trevor Diegel to teach a class about invasives. Trevor and Haley Demmitt also participated at the Wright Patterson Pollinator Expo.

Dale said the new cameras have already helped solve a theft ring that stationed in North Carolina.

c. Marketing - Amanda said that Google has changed some things and asked the Board of Park Commission if they still want to see the analytics. They said they do look at them. Amanda said she will do some additional research and see what she can come up with.

Amanda said another photo shoot is scheduled for August 15 and includes a 360° tour of two outdoor wedding locations at Lost Creek Reserve.

d. Environmental Education - Cinda is trying to confirm a dates for programming and for the Hug the Earth Festival due to the potential weddings at Heritage Hall. The 2025 date will not be on Earth Day or near it due to Easter and other schedules. They are looking into options.

Spring Creek elementary school in Piqua was chosen to be the 2023 – 2024 pollinator program school. They have a large plot, and the education department is working on the project. Projects like these hopefully continue to raise awareness of the needs for pollinators by encouraging plots at home and the reduction or elimination of chemical use.

e. Executive - Scott said the stone and plaque is in place at Stillwater Prairie Reserve in memory of Doug Haines. Janeen contacted his son for a date that works with his family to hold a small gathering in memory/honor of Doug. We have not heard back but will let the Board of Park Commissioners know as soon as we have a date.

As a reminder, the staff is having an all-staff meeting August 16 at the Lost Creek Reserve cabin. It will be a teambuilding gathering and will include tower adventures as an option.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the October 24 and November 28 meetings will be combined and held on November 14, 2023. There will no October meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Property & Personnel - There was no executive session.

Jay Meyer moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Elizabeth Gutmann, motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.