



Perry County Park District Board - Regular Meeting

September 13, 2021 3:30pm

Thornville Branch- Perry County Public Library - 99 E. Columbus St, Thornville, OH

Mr. Moore called the September 13, 2021 Regular Meeting to order at 3:40pm.

I. Roll Call

Present: Scott Moore; Jenny LaRue; Fred Redfern; Tami McAdams.

Absent: Theresa Kane.

Guests: Ben Boyer- ODOT Region 5; Judge Luann Cooperrider; Dale Hague- Clay Center of Ohio; Dan Harmon- Thornville Mayor; David Lyle- Thorn Township Trustee.

II. Request for additional/revised agenda items - none

III. Guest Speaker - ODOT /Metro Parks Fund - Ben Boyer

Mr. Boyer gave guidance and an overview of the ODOT/Metro Parks Fund usage, requirements and restrictions and answered questions from board members and the public. One of the main points addressed was the requirement of land ownership or long term lease. He advised that the park district has the ability to grow the available fund by rolling over the park district balance for several years until the district meets the land status requirement and has specific projects for which to earmark the funds. The fund balance does not expire, but communication with ODOT on future usage plans is important. Funds are allocated from ODOT every two years. The most recent allocation was for the 2022-23 cycle.

IV. Comments from the Public

A. Hague

Mr. Hague advised the Clay Center's three year lease with the County Commissioners was up for renewal and renegotiation. There has been discussion of the possibility of the Clay Center working with the Park District in the future, to share management of the Clay Center of Ohio properties, with the Park District possibly entering into a lease with the County Commissioners (owner of the properties) for the land-only parcel which surrounds the Clay Center museum and activity areas. The Park District advised it was not in a position at this time to entertain the possibility of entering into a lease with the Commissioners, but could be in the future. It was determined that while the Park District is interested in the prospect, it would be at least three years (possible length of the upcoming Clay Center lease renewal) before the Park District could revisit and consider being involved in the Clay Center property. In the meantime, the Park District would continue to collaborate to provide programs and activities at the Clay Center and engage in planning, assistance and volunteer recruitment for trail development there.

B. Judge Cooperrider

Judge Cooperrider advised she was very interested in assisting in any way possible for the proposed bike event next spring and gave her support for proposed Lodging Tax Fund requests. Judge Cooperrider invited everyone to her upcoming meeting in Thornville, designed to start the conversation about opportunities for growth, development and activities in the Thornville area. The meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2-4pm at the Grace Lutheran Church in Thornville.

C. Thornville Mayor Dan Harmon

Mayor Harmon thanked the Board for the invitation to the meeting and offered his support for the proposed bike event next spring, expressing the hope that it would be held in Thornville. He also discussed the success of the Thornville park levy.

D. Township Trustee - David Lyle

Trustee Lyle discussed the proposed creation of a park entrance and parking for the Township's park on Ridenour Road and interest in partnering with the Park District on the project in the future.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. August 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. McAdams seconded to approve the August 9, 2021 Regular meeting minutes.

Motion carried by unanimous vote

VI. Financial Status of Park District and Approval of Revenue and Expenses

A. August -Revenue and Expenses

Board members reviewed the current financial report and account balance.

VII. Old Business

A. 2021 Interns - Update (Moore)

Mr. Moore will reach out to the interns to discuss and confirm their attending the upcoming Ludowici Founders Day and their involvement in the planning for the Hocking College 5k.

B. County Commissioner related discussions - updates (Moore)

1. Glenford Silica property plans/improvements timeline

No new information obtained.

2. Commissioner properties/leases

No new information obtained.

3. Lodging Tax fund requests

Following discussion of possible projects to submit funding requests for, it was decided that the PCPD website hosting and domain name fees and 911 address signage at parks around the county were good initial choices.

Ms. McAdams moved, Mr. Redfern seconded to submit Lodging Tax Fund Requests to the County Commissioners for:

1) Annual PCPD website hosting and domain name fees

2) Purchase of twenty (20) 911 type address signs for installation at twenty park locations in the county.

Motion carried by unanimous vote

Ms. McAdams will complete the request forms and forward them to Mr. Moore for submission to the County Commissioners.

C. Ohio Appalachian Country membership meeting report from Aug 11 (LaRue/McAdams)

Ms. McAdams advised that she and Ms. LaRue and Karen Glade attended the Ohio Appalachian Country membership meeting and were very impressed with the content and helpful information shared. The scheduled speaker was unable to attend, but various members provided an informative question and answer session regarding the collection of lodging tax. It is felt that membership in OAC could be beneficial, but further discussion is warranted regarding contact information that would be listed on the OAC website, as PCPD does not have a dedicated phone number at this time.

D. Park address signage order/locations - Update (LaRue/Moore)

Ms. LaRue advised that the signs had been purchased at Snider-Flautt Lumber and are kits with numbers that will be applied to the aluminum signs. The initial 20 sign locations being

considered include parks in: Crooksville, Corning, Shawnee, New Lexington and at Ludowici, St Joseph's Lake, Clouse Lake, New Lexington Reservoir. Mr. Moore suggested we contact the potential recipients for interest and approval to install.

E. Past Event Report

1. Wildflower Hike - Clay Center - Aug 17

Ms. LaRue advised that the August hike was well attended and well received. The interns did a good job with organizing the event and presenting alongside the foraging speaker.

2. Perry Soil & Water Lake Tecumseh Paddle Try It - Aug 22

Mr. Moore advised that the park interns had not been able to attend/assist with the Soil & Water Lake Tecumseh Try It event.

F. Possible Bike safety/maintenance/ride

1. Partners / Activities

The Park District would be partnering with Judge Cooperrider, Bike Buckeye Lake & PC Health Department. A bike shop partner is being sought as well.

2. Location & Date

Possible locations of Somerset Park or Thornville Elementary School were discussed and the Board decided they would plan to hold the event in Thornville. Thornville Mayor Harmon was very receptive to the idea of holding the event in Thornville and was confident the event could be held in the parking lot of the elementary school. It was determined that holding the event in spring would be best, rather than this fall, as a kick off to summer season activities.

G. State Tourism Grant/EDA Research - Update (Redfern)

Mr. Redfern provided some additional information he learned about available State Tourism Grants/EDA (Economic Development Administration) and will continue to research the subject and report back. He mentioned that there were several grants available through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) including the Clean Ohio Fund, Natureworks Grant and Outdoor Education Grant that the Park District should keep in mind for future planning and requests.

VIII. New Business

A. Community Park Needs - PCPD Direction/Focus - community park assistance

Ms. McAdams to draft a "parks needs survey" to post online (Google Forms) and distribute to village and township managers around the county. The purpose of the survey is to get input on park needs, projects and activities that the Park District could assist with. The survey can be distributed for online completion, by email and via phone call survey. Park District inclusion in some way was discussed with the proposed trail development along Rt 358 between Thornville and Thornport.

B. Events

1. Soil and Water - Self-guided Glenford Fort Hike - Oct 3, 11-3

2. Founders Day Celebration at Ludowici - Oct 16

3. Hocking College 5k Run (during the Founders Day event) - Oct 16

4. Speaker Series - The board discussed possible locations for Judge Cooperrider to present her new murder speaker series this fall or winter. Mr. Hague advised that he is still willing to present his History of Clay speaker series again as well.

C. Meeting Locations & October Date - planning ahead

October - Shawnee - Tecumseh Theater or Shawnee Village Office

The Board decided to move the October meeting to October 18 due to October 11 being a holiday.

November - Glenford - Hoover Center

Ms. McAdams is to inquire about availability of the suggested meeting sites.

D. 2022 Budget

It was discussed that the Board will need to prepare a budget to submit to the County Commissioners in late October.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:14pm

Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. McAdams seconded to adjourn.

Next Regular Meeting - Monday - October 18, 2021 3:30pm

Location: Shawnee -specific location TBD