



Minutes

Perry County Park District Board - Regular Meeting

August 8, 2022 3:30pm

Hemlock Community Church Shelter House

8860 Main St SE, Hemlock, OH 43730

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 3:34pm.

I. Roll Call

Present: Scott Moore; Fred Redfern; Tami McAdams.

Absent: Sue Oberhauser; (one vacant board position)

Staff: Jessie Bennett - PCPD Naturalist;

Guests: Lisa Leckrone - Perry Co Mobility;

II. Approve Agenda Items / Request for additional/revised agenda item

Ms. McAdams moved, Mr. Redfern seconded, to approve the August 8, 2022, meeting agenda as amended, with two revisions:

A. Added discussion of assistance New Straitsville park signage to new business as item VII (B)

B. Move Old Business item VI (D) to beginning of Old business, becoming item VI (A) and adjusting the remaining Old Business item numbers as warranted

Motion carried by unanimous vote

III. Approval of July Minutes

A. Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. McAdams seconded, to approve the July 11, 2022, Regular meeting minutes.

Motion carried by unanimous vote

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

A. Ms. McAdams moved, Mr. Redfern seconded, to approve the July 2022 revenue & expenses report

Motion carried by unanimous vote

V. Comments from the public/guest

Lisa Leckrone of Perry County Mobility Management gave the board an overview of the structure, activities and functions of the PC Mobility Management and PC Transit. These are two separate departments, both totally grant funded by ODOT in Perry County. Mobility Management assists county residents with planning and organizing modes of travel, and assisting them with travel. Transit is the direct provider for the actual transportation. She described the new free-to-ride, dedicated Transit routes to specific pick up/drop off locations around the county that includes stops at Kroger, Job and Family Services, 911 EMA for Main Street agency access. She advises that there is now a Regional Call Center for the eight county Solutions Center, located in New Lexington. Ms. Leckrone and the Board discussed how Transit could possibly have an impact in the tourism industry, by partnering with park and rec agencies to assist with large event transportation in the future. She made suggestions

for the Park District to consider assisting with ADA access projects in parks, such as handicap marked parking, wheelchair accessibility to areas such as restrooms, farmers markets, etc. Grant funding is available for these type projects.

VI. Old Business

A. HB 377 Appalachian Community Grant - Collaboration Update

Ms. Leckrone advised that the Governor has signed HB 377 Appalachian Community Grant and the next step is grant application. MORPC (Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission) will be doing the grant writing and submission of the first layer grant application, due in mid-September. The first award disbursements will be for project and design, and later disbursements will be for project development. There are three targeted areas of grant focus are Mental Health, Workforce Development, and Downtown Revitaliation. The key to successful application will be the collaboration between villages, townships and cities throughout the county. Ms. Leckrone encourages the Park District to attend as many of the grant meetings as possible. Mr. Moore clarified that Shawnee and Somerset have been awarded economic development grant funds from ARC (Appalachian Regional Commission).

B. County Commissioner related

1. Central Silica property

Mr. Moore and Ms. Bennett advised that work on the new driveway continues and appears to be nearing completion. The contractors were willing to clear a larger connector trail between the Silica Property and Glenford Fort, if someone flagged it for them. Mr. Moore notified Soil and Water and County Commissioners he could flag the route if they needed him to. He is waiting to hear back on that.

2. Update on Dutcher House/Glenford Fort field office discussions

Mr. Moore advised that he will arrange with Soil and Water for a walk-through of the building, to prepare for conversations with them regarding the possibility of the Park District having a field office at the Glenford Fort Dutcher House.

C. Park address signage

1. With the exception of one, all signs have been assigned/delivered to communities around the county for their parks. This sign can be used later in another round of signs for other locations, once addresses get assigned.

2. Strategic Doing committee signage project update

Mr. Redfern advised the group is working on address assignments in various park locations in the county, and that he is assisting with sorting out parcels and easements for park properties in Crooksville. He advised that brown park signage from ODOT have been installed for Somerset Park on SR 13, for Arethusa springs on SR 93, and for Ludowici on SR 37. These three were paid for through an ODOT grant. The group will be applying for three more in 2023 but those may not be covered by a grant and are approximately \$500 each.

D. County-wide Park and Recreation/Tourism project

Mr. Moore advised that there have been no updates from the Athens-Ohio University/ Mark Barbash group. Mr. Moore advised that the County Commissioners have begun a Perry County Visitors Bureau, currently with one employee who is an intern through MORPC. The website is in development and should launch soon.

E. Vacant Board Member position -applications update

The Board discussed the open position. A county residency requirement is being considered that will be added to the PCPD bylaws if passed. Ms. McAdams advised that two applications have been received for the current open position and were sent to board members for review. The Board determined they would like to meet with both applicants, Ms. McAdams to make arrangements.

Ms. McAdams made the suggestion that the Board review and update the bylaws over the coming winter months.

VII. New Business

A. Programming Report (Bennett)

Ms. Bennett gave an update on recent and upcoming programming and events. She plans to work on park highlight/marketing videos later this fall for Youtube and our website.

1. Upcoming programs

August 10 - Back to School Bash, Perry Co Fairgrounds

August 13 - Full Moon Night Hike at Ludowici

August 20 - Soil and Water's Tecumseh Lake Try It - Fishing & Paddling

August 20 - Astronomy program - canceled by Cols Astronomical Society (Covid concerns)

August 27 - Ludowici - Ant program and New Moon Hike

September 26 - Storytime at Library - Corning and Crooksville

September 27 - Storytime at Library - Somerset and Thornville

September 28 - Storytime at Library - New Lexington and Junction City

October 1 - Soil & Water -Glenford Hike - PCPD station along the hike

October 1 - Junction City Fall Fest -possible table there if staffing available

October 22 - Adventures at the Cave - New Straitsville

Ms. McAdams advised that NWTF (National Wild Turkey Federation) Jake's Day is September 17 and is a well attended youth event. Ms. Bennett will look into having a PCPD presence there if possible.

Mr. Redfern advised that ODNR has a Outdoor Recreation grant available for \$500 and can be applied for 2x per year. Ms. McAdams mentioned they also have a Passport to Fishing grant available also. Mr. Redfern is familiar with several fishing clubs in Perry Co that may be able to partner with PCPD to put on youth fishing programs. Ms. Bennett will look into the various grants available.

2. Update -New Straitsville Museum/Robinson's Cave "Adventures at the Cave" - Fall (Oct or Nov)

- a) Ms. Bennett has arranged a planning meeting with the New Straitsville Sue Miller on Sept 10 for the fall program.
- b) The board discussed other ways of advertising Park District events including radio stations and the PC Chamber of Commerce. It was noted that to use the Chamber would require membership, but has a very large email database for event advertisement.

Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. McAdams seconded, to approve joining the Perry County Chamber of Commerce.

Motion carried by unanimous vote

Ms. McAdams to check on whether the membership is pro-rated if we join now. If not, we will wait until the first of the year.

- c) The Board discussed the need for table coverings and logo table runner for program display table.

Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. McAdams seconded, to approve purchase of table coverings and logo table runner for program display table, at a cost of \$100 or less.

Motion carried by unanimous vote

B. New Straitsville - assistance with replacing park/cave signage

Mr. Moore advised he'd been to the New Straitsville park in anticipation of the program at the cave in the fall and noted the condition of the signage at the park and cave. The Board discussed assisting New Straitsville with replacing these faded/damaged signs. Mr. Redfern said we should let Ms. Leckrone know to add New Straitsville to the 2023 ODOT park sign request list.

Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. McAdams seconded, to provide some assistance to New Straitsville to replace the current park and cave signs.

Motion carried by unanimous vote

Mr. Moore will work with New Straitsville on the replacement signage and obtaining quotes. The Board wants the cost of the signage submitted to the County Commissioners for consideration for reimbursement from the Lodging Tax Fund.

VIII. Adjournment

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm

Next Regular Meeting - Monday, September, 2022, 3:30pm

Location: Crooksville - Village Park, small shelter house