

Licking Park District Commissioners
Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 15, 2023

Board Chair Mr. Kiracofe called the March 15, 2023 Regular Meeting to order at 6:03pm at the James Bradley Center, Infirmary Mound Park.

- I. Roll Call
Present: Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Campbell, Mr. Kiracofe, Mr. Moseley
Absent: Mr. White
Staff: Director Lund, Ms. Lohrman, Ms. McAdams
- II. Comments from the Public
None.
- III. Approve agenda items / Request for additional agenda items
Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the March 15, 2023 regular meeting agenda items.
Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. February 15, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the February 15, 2023 regular meeting minutes.
Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- V. Financial Status of Park District
 - A. February 2023 Financial Summary
Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the February 2023 financial summary.
Director Lund presented the February 2023 financial summary to the Board.
Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- VI. Approval of February 2023 Revenue & Expenses
 - A. February 2023 Revenue & Expenses
Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the February 2023 revenue & expenses.
Director Lund presented the February 2023 Revenue & Expenses to the Board.
Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- VII. Old Business
 - A. Longwell-Miles Memorial Park - status update
Director Lund updated the Board on the status of the Longwell-Miles Park.
Mr. Kiracofe, Mr. Moseley, & himself met with representatives from the city of Johnstown & Johnstown Rec District regarding their request for 65 acres to

install active recreation sites for various sports. Until the courts rule, the Park District can't move forward with their request. Mr. Kiracofe stated the Attorney General is writing a brief & in roughly three weeks the courts will be able to respond to that brief.

B. Amendments to By-Laws of the Licking Park District

Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the amendments to By-Laws of the Licking Park District.

Director Lund stated the following additions have been made, along with some verbiage changes recommended by the Licking County Prosecutor's office:

Pledge of Allegiance added to agenda

Director's Report added to agenda

Comments from the public limited to five minutes unless more time approved by a Board member

Purchasing power of the Director added

Removed \$1,000 & replaced with \$2,500 regarding reported spending on financial report (pg. 8)

It was also confirmed that if a quorum of three are meeting, all three Board members have to approve motion for motion to pass.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

C. Palmer Road Swamp Preserve (Etna Township) - parking lot & fencing

Director Lund stated there were no new updates to the status of the Palmer Road Swamp Preserve parking lot & fencing project. He has three quotes to choose from once Etna Township makes a decision.

Etna Township did ask if the Park District would split the cost of the road extension, so once Director Lund gets the specs for the extension, he can request quotes from contractors.

He will follow up with the Licking County Prosecutor on a letter to the neighbor (Brent Stobbs) regarding tree clearing.

D. 5-Year Strategic Plan

Discussion on the following topics took place:

Short-term & Long-term goals, facility & park improvements.

VIII. New Business - Special Item Follow Up

A. Eagle Scout Project

Ms. McAdams discussed the upcoming Eagle Scout project taking place at Infirmary Mound Park. She is currently working with Adam Terry who is going to build ADA accessible picnic tables for each of the Infirmary Mound Park shelters.

Ms. Campbell suggested a news release or marketing spotlight be sent to let the public know of the additions.

B. Granville High School Astronomy Club Project

Director Lund discussed the solar system replica project a group of students from the Granville Astronomy Club want to install on a portion of the TJ Evans trail between Granville (near Granville Milling) & Moots Run. They're in the preliminary stage, designing signs which will mark planets of the solar system on the bike path, scaling the distance between the planets on the path.

C. Homeless Encampments - Riverview Reserve

Ms. McAdams presented to the Board the on-going issue with homeless camps & trash that has been plaguing the Riverview Reserve over the past 5 years. A small clean-up happened at one site in 2021, however, no plan was created to address other sites on the property, or prevent future camps & trash from appearing. After receiving a phone call in late February from a neighbor to the Riverview Reserve with concerns of trash & the number of homeless camps on the property, she & Director Lund visited the site with sheriff deputies on March 3rd. They found roughly 10 camps & numerous piles of trash. The Sheriff's Deputies officially advised the inhabitants they were trespassing. Ms. McAdams & Director Lund handed out 'Notices to Vacate' to inhabitants, along with resource materials from organizations that could provide them with assistance, & also posted these notices at the sites. Ms. McAdams presented photos to the Board of the current camps & debris. On March 13th, Director Lund & Ms. McAdams, along with sheriff deputies, revisited the sites to ensure inhabitants had vacated the property. Five additional sites were located during this visit. As of this date, inhabitants served on March 3rd had vacated their camps with the others from the newly located camps being given a week to move. These additional sites will be re-checked with the Sheriff's deputies the week of March 20th.

She & Director Lund have received the following four quotes, with one pending, from bio-hazard mitigation companies: Serve-Pro \$15,160; Dry Patrol of Central Ohio \$17,152; Bio-One Columbus \$25,032; Steri-Clean Cleveland \$33,000; Aftermath quote still pending.

Ms. McAdams added it is important to know this needs to happen soon, before vegetation starts filling in & Mr. Jenkins added that come June, the number of people present will more than double.

Mr. Jenkins suggested working with the ATV riders, establishing a trail system for them, & that would mostly eliminate the chance of homeless coming back because the two groups do not get along.

Ms. McAdams respects his suggestion but feels the park acreage isn't large enough for the ATV users, hikers, & disc golf participants. Additionally, ATVs are very damaging to the trails.

Mr. Kiracofe summarized the short-term goals, being that we need to first clean up the area, then work with law enforcement to keep new camps from forming, along with having staff clear invasives. He suggested closing the

park until the cleanup is complete & Ms. McAdams said she will just take the web page down & not close the park since the boat launch is being used.

Mr. Jenkins moved, Mr. Moseley seconded to approve spending \$25,032 for Bio-One Columbus to clean-up the camps & trash at Riverview.

Ms. Campbell suggested authorizing Director Lund the ability to spend additional funds in case more money is needed, in order to keep this project moving.

Mr. Jenkins & Mr. Moseley withdrew their motion and second, wanting to be sure clean-up continued, in the case costs increased due to possibly locating more camps.

Mr. Jenkins moved, Mr. Moseley seconded to allow Director Lund to spend up to \$30,000 for Bio-One Columbus to clean-up homeless camps & trash at Riverview Reserve.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Once the camps & trash are removed, the Board agreed to allow staff to work with local law enforcement to keep ATV's and encampments out of the park & to focus on invasive plant removal to keep the area open & presentable to the public. This will also help the disc golf club with their disc golf course install happening later this year.

The Board thanked Ms. McAdams for bringing this to their attention.

IX. Director's Report

Director Lund presented the Board with his director's report. Discussion took place on the following:

2022 Annual Report, Mr. Bradley 'Years of Service' plaque, Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

X. Adjournment

Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to adjourn.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.

Next Regular Meeting April 19, 2023 6:00 PM at Infirmary Mound Park - James Bradley Center