

MIAMI COUNTY PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, February 25, 2025  
Heritage Hall at Lost Creek Reserve  
9 a.m. Meeting Minutes

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

MINUTES - Elizabeth Gutmann made a motion to approve the minutes from January 22, 2025, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

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

DONATIONS – Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to accept the donation as presented, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. RESOLUTION 1645-25 - Request of Funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Designation of Projects for Ohio Parks Districts Roadwork Fund FY 2026-2027 through the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association (OPRA). Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1645-25, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.
- B. RESOLUTION 1646-25 - Authorization for the Executive Director of the Miami County Park District to dispose of, and remove from the park district inventory, the machinery, equipment and other inventoried items Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1646-25, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.
- C. RESOLUTION 1647-25 - Authorization for the Executive Director of the Miami County Park District to enter into an agreement with Wagner Paving Inc. to repair/resurface a portion of the Great Miami Recreational Trail at a final cost not to exceed \$53,366.00 Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1647-25, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.
- D. RESOLUTION 1648-25 - Authorization to purchase a 2025 Dodge Durango SUV from Knippen Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Inc. at a final cost not to exceed \$42,507.50 Mrs. Gutmann made a motion to approve Resolution 1648-25, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Foundation – The February meeting canceled due to illness. Next meeting is March 12.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### A. Staff Reports

- a. Deputy Director – Deputy Director – Kevin said on April 12 there will be a tree planting and community outreach event at John A. Wannemacher Nature Reserve. This will be a joint venture with the Nature Conservancy planting 300 trees. Scott said the Troy, Tipp City and Piqua Rotaries will be volunteering along with local neighbors and a Girl Scout troop. This project will be a great way to promote and celebrate the TNC mitigation project and the Park District’s conservation efforts.

Kevin said monarchs may become listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The park will continue to promote and educate the public of the threats to the pollinators. A multitude of factors contribute to the decline.

- b. Operations – Dale distributed pictures of projects including the installation of fire breaks, repairing of wood structures, snow removal, cattail removal. The staff continues to remain busy.
- c. Marketing - Amanda said she and Scott are working on fundraising packets. She feels they should be ready by the next meeting.

She said Allison completed the designs for Trail Run Challenge shirts and if anyone would like to see them after the meeting, let her know. Allison does a fabulous job on designs. Dr. Malarkey said he liked it when various staff members gave a presentation on what their department is doing. He asked if Allison would be interested in doing a presentation for the Board at a meeting. Amanda said she would not be comfortable. Everyone agrees, Allison is doing a great job.

- d. Environmental Education – Cinda said Leigh Ann has more time to devote to grant writing since she is working more hours. She is looking for funding for parts of Hug the Earth programming. Ohio Arts Council, Miami County Foundation and many more may be a possibility for funding.

The education staff is evaluating which program will be the featured program in the schools. The education staff is waiting for the summary of the community survey to confirm what direction the programs need to go.

Cinda would like to accommodate as many kids as possible at programs, especially the summer Eco-Camps. The staff is currently working on a plan to make the registration process easier on RecDesk.

- e. Executive - Scott said the Hug the Earth Festival for families is May 10 and the school festival week is May 12-15.

We are working with Choice One on development for the wetlands expansion at John A. Wannemacher Nature Reserve with Denlinger and Sons. Miami County Soil & Water is very involved with the plan and development. Denlinger and Sons will be funding the project. We may have project proposal ready to sign at next month’s meeting.

There was no executive session. Elizabeth Gutmann motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jay Meyer, motion unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned 10:01 a.m.

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J. Scott Myers

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Dr. Robert Malarkey