



Hancock Park District

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS Public Meeting Notice and Agenda

Date: Tuesday, August 9, 2016
Location: Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center at Oakwoods Nature Preserve
Time: 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated June 14, 2016

Financial Status

1. Review of Financial Statement dated July 31, 2016

Old Business

New Business

1. Request to approve the 2017 Estimate of Revenues
2. Request to approve the discontinuation of the Hunting with Permission Game Management Program at Litzenberg Memorial Woods
3. Request to approve the bid recommendation for the construction of boat launches at Liberty Landing and Blanchard Landing and Resolution 2016-09 regarding an additional appropriation within the Auditor's Certification and Park Commissioner's general fund in the amount of \$49,100.00 to pay for the improvements
4. Request to approve the bid recommendation for the paving of the parking lot at Aeraland Recreation Area and Resolution 2016-10 regarding an additional appropriation within the Auditor's Certification and Park Commissioner's general fund in the amount of \$137,100.00 to pay for the improvements
5. Request authorization to submit an Offer to Purchase regarding land located along the Blanchard River for the purpose of Blanchard River Greenway Trail development and expansion
6. Request by the Village of McComb to reallocate remaining grant money from 2015 for floating docks on reservoir #2 or for other items, such as tables, benches, and trees.

Discussion

1. Hancock Park District Report:
 - Director
 - Park Operations Manager
 - Naturalist
 - Marketing Manager
 - Natural Resource Coordinator

Public Input

1. Hancock Parks Foundation Board of Trustees Report:
 - President

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

Notice of Executive Session and Agenda

Roll Call

Old Business

1. To consider the compensation of a public employee per Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G) (1)

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Staff Report/Agenda Supplement
August 9, 2016

Request to approve the 2017 Estimate of Revenues: Completing the Estimate of Revenues is a routine matter each year. The Hancock Park District's revenue estimate is due to the Hancock County Auditor in July. However, since the July meeting was cancelled due to the absence of a quorum, the Board is being asked to approve the Estimate of Revenues at its August meeting (see Estimate of Revenues).

Request to approve the discontinuation of the Hunting with Permission Game Management Program at Litzenberg Memorial Woods: The Hancock Park District has been conducting the Hunting with Permission Game Management Program since 1993. There does not appear to be any documentation on or understanding of why the program was started. Speculation suggests that hunting as a management tool was not the reason. Therefore, the reason may have been for a recreational purpose. In recent years that has certainly been the case.

For five months each year from September 1 through January 31, the south side of Litzenberg Memorial Woods is closed to everyone except those who receive a permit to hunt or trap via the hunting lottery held in August. Consequently, outdoor recreation opportunities for other park visitors in a prime hiking and horseback riding location is limited and in fact non-existent during the timeframe of late summer, autumn, and early winter.

Hunting pressure is believed to be extremely high on private property around the south side of Litzenberg Memorial Woods. The land is predominantly open farmland with small woodlots sprinkled about with a narrow wooded riparian zone along the Blanchard River that serves in part as a migration corridor.

The Hancock Park District would like to shift its management philosophy from recreational hunting to other forms of outdoor recreation and the provision of habitat and refuge for animals with the understanding that if hunting and trapping occurs in the future, it will be "*scientifically based on the need for natural resource management.*" In other words, hunting and trapping would be used as a natural resource management tool (see 2015-2016 Hunting with Permission Information Sheet, Hunting with Permission Map – Litzenberg Memorial Woods/Heritage Trail/Hunting Area Boundaries, and Hunting Analysis of the Annual Hunting at Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Heritage Trail prepared by Hancock Park District natural resource coordinator, Sarah Betts). Sarah will be at the meeting to present the agenda item, provide additional information, and answer questions.

Request to approve the bid recommendation for the construction of boat launches at Liberty Landing and Blanchard Landing and Resolution 2016-09 regarding an additional appropriation within the Auditor's Certification and Park Commissioner's general fund in the amount of \$49,100.00 to pay for the improvements: Three bids were received ranging from \$44,179.00 to \$53,329.40 to \$59,356.00 (see Bid Tabulation). The low bid of \$44,179.00 from Miller Contracting Group out of Ottoville, Ohio is recommended. This project is being funded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Watercraft's Waterways Safety Fund (Cooperative Boating Facility Grant). The grant award is \$76,808.00. The Hancock Park District is obligated to pay for the project followed by reimbursement from the State of Ohio. Therefore, an additional appropriation of \$49,100.00 is required (see Resolution 2016-09 and concept/photograph). Expenses include: construction - \$44,179.00, 10% contingency - \$4,421.00, and mandatory sign acknowledging the funding organization and grant program - \$500.00.

Request to approve the bid recommendation for the paving of the parking lot at Aeraland Recreation Area and Resolution 2016-10 regarding an additional appropriation within the Auditor’s Certification and Park Commissioner’s general fund in the amount of \$137,100.00 to pay for the improvements:

Four bids were received ranging from \$123,500.00 to 126,213.75 to 127,757.00 to 127,982.00 (see Bid Tabulation). The low bid of \$123,500.00 from ACI Construction Company out of Alvada, Ohio is recommended. This project is being funded primarily by the Hancock Park District. Therefore, an additional appropriation of \$137,100.00 is required (see Resolution 2016-10 and concept/drawing). Expenses include: construction - \$123,500.00, 10% contingency - \$12,350.00, parking signs - \$500.00, and 10 parking blocks - \$750.00. Note: In addition to the bid amount, the Ohio Department of Transportation will provide supplemental funding in the amount of \$72,949.00 for asphalt (contractor will invoice ODOT directly). Supplemental funds are available to the Hancock Park District through the State of Ohio’s Metropark Program via the Biennial Transportation Appropriations Act (O.R.C. 5511.06).

Request authorization to submit an Offer to Purchase regarding land located along the Blanchard River for the purpose of Blanchard River Greenway Trail development and expansion:

Over the last six years, the Hancock Park District has expressed interest in acquiring approximately four acres of land along the Blanchard River east of Bright Road, north of State Route 568, west of Vogelsong Conservation Area. Meetings and site visits with landowners and their representatives have occurred on several occasions. In July of 2016, the Hancock Park District was presented with an opportunity to provide an Offer to Purchase for \$100,000.00, which is now a firm asking price (see Multi-use Trail Master Plan/Map; the arrow inside the circle points to the location of the potential land acquisition).

Acquiring the land has several benefits:

1. It would present an opportunity to develop and expand the Blanchard River Greenway Trail generally, which is consistent with recommendations outlined in the Multi-use Trails Master Plan and the Hancock Park District’s Strategic and Comprehensive Plan.
2. It would provide a direct connection to and extend the proposed new Blanchard River Greenway Trail section (grant pending) from Riverside Suites Office Complex on East Main Cross Street to Eastpoint Area at Bright Road and East Main Cross Street.
3. It would connect Eastpoint Area with Vogelsong Conservation Area to the east, thus providing pedestrian access to a conservation area.
4. It would give bicyclists in particular an alternative to riding on Sandusky Street/State Route 568 when traveling to bike routes east of Findlay.
5. It would further a goal to extend the Blanchard River Greenway Trail from Findlay to Riverbend Recreation Area (i.e. connect the Blanchard River Greenway Trail to Riverbend Recreation Area’s internal trail network).

Request by the Village of McComb to reallocate remaining grant money from 2015 for floating docks on reservoir #2 or for other items, such as tables, benches, and trees:

The Village of McComb received a Community Park Improvement Program Grant from the Hancock Park District in the amount of \$7,500.00 to purchase material for the construction of four small shelters. The Village of McComb has \$1,800.00 of that grant remaining from the shelter project and would like to use it for the purchase of floating docks or for other items, such as tables, benches, and trees. Material for the shelters has been purchased and construction is underway based on observation via a site visit on June 28 (see Hancock Park District Grant Agreement with Village of McComb).