



Hancock Park District

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

Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2026
Location: Brugeman Lodge at Riverbend Recreation Area
9250 Township Road 208, Findlay, Ohio 45840
Time: 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated December 9, 2025

Financial Status

1. Review of the Financial Statement dated December 31, 2025, presented by Hancock Park District Business Manager Vicky Stozich

Old Business

New Business

1. Election of Officers: Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
2. Election of a member of the Board of Park Commissioners to the Hancock Parks Foundation Board of Trustees
3. Request to approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule
4. Request to approve the 2025 Schedule of Gifts, Grants and Donations
5. Request to approve Resolution 2026-1 requesting the County Auditor to make tax advances during the year 2026, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 321.34
6. Request to approve Resolution 2026-02 regarding additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification and Park Commissioners to appropriate in the General Fund in the amount of \$3,615.66 for unemployment compensation for Kylee Crist
7. Request authorization to construct a permanent barrier east of the Big Oaks Activity Area parking lot to prevent vehicles from driving on pedestrian walkways

Discussion

1. Hancock Park District Report:
 - Director – Gary Pruitt
 - Park Operations Manager – Scott Egbert
 - Naturalist – Michelle Rumschlag

Public Input

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.; Brugeman Lodge at Riverbend Recreation Area

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Staff Report/Agenda Supplement
January 13, 2026

Election of Officers: Chairperson and Vice Chairperson: Board bylaws require the election of a chairperson and at least one vice chairperson.

Election of a member of the Board of Park Commissioners to the Hancock Parks Foundation Board of Trustees: Board bylaws require the election of one of its members to the Board of Trustees.

Request to approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule: Meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at Riverbend Recreation Area's Brugeman Lodge (see 2026 Meeting Schedule).

Request to approve the 2025 Schedule of Gifts, Grants and Donations: Approval by the Hancock Park District Board of Park Commissioners will serve as the Hancock Park District's official recognition and acceptance of gifts, grants and donations (see 2025 Schedule of Gifts, Grants and Donations).

Request to approve Resolution 2026-1 requesting the County Auditor to make tax advances during the year 2026, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 321.34: Advances on tax collections to the Hancock Park District's General Fund will ease cash flow requirements and prevent bank borrowing with interest for current expenses (see Resolution 2026-1).

Request to approve Resolution 2026-02 regarding additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification and Park Commissioners to appropriate in the General Fund in the amount of \$3,615.66 for unemployment compensation for Kylee Crist: Kylee worked as the natural resource assistant. She resigned in 2024 (see Resolution 2026-02).

Request authorization to construct a permanent barrier east of the Big Oaks Activity Area parking lot to prevent vehicles from driving on pedestrian walkways: Since 2018, following the construction of the Mariann Dana Younger Memorial Pavilion at Riverbend Recreation Area, and given the popularity of that pavilion as a rental facility (140+ rentals in 2025), renters have been driving their vehicles along the pedestrian walkway and in the grass and parking next to the pavilion, in the grass, and on the walkway. The apparent laziness and disregard shown by park visitors accelerates the deterioration of the concrete walkway, kills the grass and creates ruts, and on one occasion, caused damage to the new asphalt parking lot (a truck with a snow plow hitch damaged the parking lot when it was driven along the concrete walkway and through the grass and across the swale where it came to an abrupt stop when the snow plow hitch hit the edge of the asphalt and created a hole in the parking lot). Moreover, vehicles on and near the walkway create a safety concern involving pedestrians on the Loop Trail and children near the playground.

More than one park commissioner has expressed concern about the situation. Posting park regulations saying it is unlawful to park a vehicle anywhere but in a designated parking space, posting signs that say NO MOTOR VEHICLES, adding language to the rental agreement prohibiting the driving of vehicles beyond the parking lot, and administering a law enforcement service contract with the Hancock County Sheriff's Office have not served as an effective deterrent. Perhaps the only solution is to create a permanent barrier with bollards similar to what was constructed in front of the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center and along River Street in front of the Great Karg Well Historical Site.

Bollards, including a few removable bollards if necessary, would be constructed at strategic locations along a 275-foot section of the Loop Trail as part of the Loop Trail Improvement Project at Riverbend Recreation Area in 2026. Bollards placed six feet apart along with a few strategically placed boulders in the grass and one or two concrete parking blocks to fill the gaps would be required (see Photographs on page two).

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HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2026

The January 13, 2026 meeting of the Hancock Park District Board of Park Commissioners was held at Brugeman Lodge in Riverbend Recreation Area.

Park Commissioners Present: Ed Ingold, Scott Younger, Rick Kidwell
Staff Present: Gary Pruitt, Vicky Stozich, Scott Egbert, Michelle Rumschlag
Guests: Betsy Worden, Jillian Strete, Cameron Williams, Mike Gilligan, Dave Distel, Patrick Barnes, Jeremy Kalb

The meeting was called to order by Ed Ingold at 3:28 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve Meeting Minutes dated December 9, 2025. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL STATUS

Income and expense reports dated December 31, 2025 were reviewed by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Chairperson and Vice Chairperson: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to elect Ed Ingold as chairperson and Scott Younger and Rick Kidwell as vice chairperson. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Election of a member of the Board of Park Commissioners to the Hancock Parks Foundation Board of Trustees: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Ed Ingold to elect Rick Kidwell to the Hancock Parks Foundation Board of Trustees. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule: A motion was made by Rick Kidwell with a second by Scott Younger to approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve the 2025 Schedule of Gifts, Grants and Donations: A motion was made by Rick Kidwell with a second by Scott Younger to approve the 2025 Schedule of Gifts, Grants and Donations.

Request to approve Resolution 2026-1 requesting the County Auditor to make tax advances during the year 2026, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 321.34: A motion was made by Rick Kidwell with a second by Scott Younger to approve Resolution 2026-1. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve Resolution 2026-02 regarding additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification and Park Commissioners to appropriate in the General Fund in the amount of \$3,615.66 for unemployment compensation for Kylee Crist: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve Resolution 2026-02. The amount shown on the agenda and resolution was incorrect. The correct amount was \$6,315.66. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request authorization to construct a permanent barrier east of the Big Oaks Activity Area parking lot to prevent vehicles from driving on pedestrian walkways: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to authorize the construction of a permanent barrier involving bollards, including removable bollards as needed to provide maintenance and emergency access. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION

Hancock Park District Report:

The revised anticipated completion date for the Oxbow Bend Activity Area Improvement Project is May 1. Work related to the pavilion, parking lot, and ground restoration will continue into spring. The next construction progress meeting will be on January 20. EnviroScience, Inc., an environmental firm out of Stow, Ohio will be providing a quote for electrofishing at Cooper Pond. The basic report will provide fish inventory and stocking recommendation ahead of the establishment of fishing regulations and the opening of Cooper Pond to the public.

Work at Cooper Pond to finish phase one and begin phase two will begin next week. Park tours with park managers are underway. The focus is on park maintenance standards and expectations.

The Hike-It! medallions were new this year. Of the 227 participants, 87 hikers received a medallion. The medallion design will remain the same except for the date and the color. In the future, medallions will be available when hikers stop by the office. The issue of program participants signing up for public programs but not showing up or calling has been a problem. Sending reminders prior to public programs has helped.

PUBLIC INPUT

City of Findlay Engineer Jeremy Kalb said the agreements will be reviewed by the Findlay Park and Recreation Board and Findlay City Council in the coming weeks and that the agreements should be ready for the Board of Park Commissioners to review at their meeting in February. He said the Hancock Park District has been good to work with.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Meeting Minutes approved:

Edward D. Ingold, Chairperson

Gary E. Pruitt, Director/Secretary

Date

Date