



Hancock Park District

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

Date: Tuesday, September 8, 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 August 11, 2026

Financial Status

1. Review of the Financial Statement dated August 31, 2026, presented by Hancock Park District Business Manager Jamie Shane
2. Statement of Activity - Hancock Park District Blanchard River Greenway Trail Fund - January 01, 2026 through June 30, 2026

Old Business

New Business

1. Request to approve Resolution 2026-08 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Hancock County Auditor
2. Request to approve a bid recommendation for the Walkways Paving Project at Riverbend Recreation Area and Aeraland Recreation Area
3. Request to approve the purchase of a dock and kayak launch for Cooper Pond
4. Request to approve the Capital Improvement Plan • Preliminary Schedule • 2027-2034
5. Request to approve management practices to support a healthy and sustainable recreational fishery at Cooper Pond as recommended by EnviroScience

Discussion

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

Public Input

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.; Brugeman Lodge at Riverbend Recreation Area

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Staff Report/Agenda Supplement

September 8, 2026

Request to approve Resolution 2026-08 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Hancock County Auditor: Resolution 2026-08 accepts the amounts and rates as determined by the Hancock County Budget Commission and authorizes the necessary tax levies and certifies them to the Hancock County Auditor for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2027. As a routine matter each year, the Board of Park Commissioners is required to accept and adopt the resolution (see Resolution 2026-08).

Request to approve a bid recommendation for the Walkways Paving Project at Riverbend Recreation Area and Aeraland Recreation Area: Two bids were received. The apparent low bid was \$544,485.00 from Smith Paving & Excavating (Norwalk). The other bid was from ACI Construction (Findlay) for \$1,058,000.00. The project is now scheduled for 2027: Riverbend Recreation Area in the spring, finish by May 27 and Aeraland Recreation Area in the summer, June 1 – August 6 (see Riverbend & Aeraland Recreation Area – 2026 Improvements – Bid Award Recommendation).

Request to approve the purchase of a dock and kayak launch for Cooper Pond: When the City of Findlay took control of Zonta Landing Boat Rentals at Riverside Park in 2026, the Hancock Park District turned its attention toward boating programs on Shank Lake, Dold Lake, and Cooper Pond even though canoeing and kayaking programs on the Blanchard River Water Trail continued via a variety of access points (e.g., Eastpoint Area). Access to Shank Lake utilizes a boat ramp, which is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2027. Access to Dold Lake utilizes a sandy beach. Currently, access to Cooper Pond utilizes an area along the shoreline that is fairly level, although getting feet wet is likely and launching and landing a kayak may be challenging.

The storage building at Cooper Pond is scheduled to be demolished so that a boathouse similar to the Zonta Landing boathouse can be constructed in 2027. It will store six tandem canoes with ample floor space to store kayaks. The Program Department is contemplating a variety of boating programs at Cooper Pond.

The EZ Dock from Diamond Waterfronts (Rootstown) is a 20' x 10' dock with a kayak launch connected to a half hex and gangplank. It would be anchored by four steel posts. Once installed, it would remain in place year around. The cost is \$22,999.00, including delivery and installation. Funding would come from the Hancock Park District's 2026 budget. If approved, the dock would be purchased and installed this fall, ahead of construction in 2027 (see Proposed Dock and Kayak Launch at Cooper Pond).

Request to approve the Capital Improvement Plan • Preliminary Schedule • 2027-2034: The Capital Improvement Plan does not include the cost component, since the primary focus is on timeline and it does not include project descriptions, since most of the projects are described in the Strategic and Comprehensive Plan. Project components, scope, cost estimates, funding, and actual timelines will be addressed over time and as projects get near. The preliminary schedule was based in part on a desire to maintain the momentum and pace of park improvement projects that started in 2016 and in part on the director's anticipated retirement in May 2035. Administering and completing the remaining major projects is important. Within the preliminary schedule, projects were bundled where it made sense and as always, local and state grants, private donations, and the result of the next levy will determine the Hancock Park District's success (see Capital Improvement Plan).

Request to approve management practices to support a healthy and sustainable recreational fishery at Cooper Pond as recommended by EnviroScience: Recommendations are on pages 15 and 16 of the report (see Cooper Pond 2026 Fish Survey Report).

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2026

The September 8, 2026 meeting of the Hancock Park District Board of Park Commissioners was held at Brugeman Lodge in Riverbend Recreation Area.

The meeting was called to order by Ed Ingold at 3:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Park Commissioners Present: Scott Younger, Ed Ingold, Rick Kidwell
Staff Present: Gary Pruitt, Jamie Shane, Michelle Rumschlag

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve Meeting Minutes dated August 11, 2026. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL STATUS

Income and expense reports dated August 31, 2026 were reviewed by the Board. Hancock Park District Business Manager Jamie Shane is continuing to monitor the budget in terms of materials and fuel. The fuel tank at River Landings Maintenance Facility is full and should last for the remainder of this year.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Request to approve Resolution 2026-08 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Hancock County Auditor: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve Resolution 2026-08. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve a bid recommendation for the Walkways Paving Project at Riverbend Recreation Area and Aeraland Recreation Area: A motion was made by Ed Ingold with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve the bid from Smith Paving & Excavating in the amount of \$544,485.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve the purchase of a dock and kayak launch for Cooper Pond: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve the purchase of a dock and kayak launch for Cooper Pond. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve the Capital Improvement Plan • Preliminary Schedule • 2027-2024: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve the Capital Improvement Plan as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Request to approve management practices to support a healthy and sustainable recreational fishery at Cooper Pond as recommended by EnviroScience: A motion was made by Scott Younger with a second by Rick Kidwell to approve management practices as recommended by EnviroScience. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Hancock Park District Board of Park Commissioners

DISCUSSION

Hancock Park District Report:

The Hancock Park District received a \$25,000.00 grant from The Community Foundation for the Walkways Paving Project at Aeraland Recreation Area. Transferring ownership of Centennial Park from the City of Findlay to the Hancock Park District will not happen. The Hancock Park District will continue to manage and maintain the park. A new agreement needs to be signed.

To date, 227 people have registered for Hike-It! The Native Plant Sale at Oakwoods Nature Preserve and the Barn Tour at Litzenberg Memorial Woods are scheduled for this weekend. Program Department personnel will be present at both events. Harvest the Past is scheduled for next week. Pioneer Tyke Hikes and Autumnfest are scheduled for October.

PUBLIC INPUT

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Rick Kidwell with a second by Scott Younger to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Meeting Minutes approved:

Edward D. Ingold, Chairperson

Gary E. Pruitt, Director/Secretary

Date

Date