

MONROE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

BOARD MINUTES

February 16, 2022 3:30 pm
ZOOM MEETING ID: 869 3534 6385

I. **Call to Order:** President Evelyn Harrell called the meeting to order at 3:34 pm.

II. **Roll Call of Board members:**

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Evelyn Harrell		X	
Joe Goss		X	
Amy Thompson		X	
Dr. Carolyn VandeWiele			X
Kevin Dogan, J.D		X	
Phil Cornwell		X	
Carol Walter		X	

Staff Members Present: None

Staff Members who attended the meeting electronically: Kelli Witmer, Kay Medley, Beth Cossairt, Autumn Brunelle, Andy French, Stanley Robertson, Matt Wilhoit, and County Attorney Dave Schilling.

Invited Guests Present: None.

Invited Guests who attended the meeting electronically: Monroe County Council member, Cheryl Munson, and County Commissioner, Penny Githens.

Public Present: None.

Public who attended the meeting electronically: Troy Vegeler, Cutters Soccer Club.

III. **Amendments and Approval of the Agenda –**

Ms. Harrell moved to add a discussion of the hybrid meetings to old business and Ms. Thompson seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Walter	X			X
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X

Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Walter moved to approve the amended agenda and Mr. Goss seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			X
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X
Dogan	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Statement of Compliance: This meeting, using electronic communications, is subject to IC 5-14-1.5-3.5, and therefore no final action will be taken at this meeting on the prohibited subject matters listed in Section 3.5(f) of the statute.

V. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items – None.

Dr. VandeWiele arrived to the meeting at 3:41pm.

VI. Approval of the January 19, 2022 meeting minutes –

Mr. Goss moved to approve the amended January 19, 2022 meeting minutes and Ms. Thompson seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			X
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Approval of the January 2022 non-reverting claims –

Mr. Cornwell made a motion to approve the January 2022 non-reverting claims and Ms. Thompson seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			X
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Approval of the January 2022 credit card charges –

Mr. Goss made a motion to approve the January 2022 credit card charges and Dr. VandeWiele seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			X
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Old Business

A. Hybrid meetings – Mr. Schilling explained to the Board that hybrid meetings would be an option to the Board moving forward, noting that the requirements for hybrid meetings are that at least 50% of the Board members must be physically present to allow for the other 50% of the Board members to attend the meeting by electronic means, and in addition, sets forth the rules on how that process is to be utilized, how to handle voting, and the limitations on the number of meetings that can be attended electronically for each member.

After brief discussion, the Board decided to adopt the Electronic Attendance Policy for Public Meetings (Hybrid Meetings).

Ms. Thompson made a motion to adopt the Electronic Attendance Policy for Public Meetings (Hybrid Meetings) and Mr. Dogan seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			X
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Karst Farm Park siding, soffit, gutters, & roof quotes – Mr. French presented to the Board the quotes that were received for the replacement of siding, soffit, gutters, and the roof for the Commons and the caretaker’s house. Ms. Witmer told the Board that the Parks Department is recommending to replace siding, soffit, gutters and the roof on only the Commons at this time to see if she can get funding from other places. Mr. French stated that there were only three quotes that came in and Graber Post Buildings came in at the lowest quote for \$24,453. Mr. French recommends going with Graber Post Buildings.

Mr. French continued by telling the Board that one of the two exterior doors on the Commons came unhinged from the wall, so he recommends replacing both doors, which will take an additional \$3,000, plus an additional \$1,000 in case the contractor would find any other problems. Ms. Witmer told the Board that the Parks Department recommended using the Frost Flat color “burnished slate” for the siding, noting that it is a flat color, not shiny as the others, and it is \$937 more. Ms. Harrell mentioned that the roof would be green.

Ms. Thompson asked if the replacement doors would be metal, and Mr. French stated that the replacement doors would be metal. Ms. Witmer told the Board that the Parks Department would like to take the funding for the Commons project out of the non-reverting accounts 1178 and 1179 contractual lines.

Mr. Goss made a motion to accept the quote from Graber Post Buildings of \$24,453, plus an additional \$4,000 contingency for doors and anything else that might come up, and that the color of the siding be “burnished slate” and Ms. Thompson seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			x

Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

X. New Business

A. Approval of new MCPR Foundation member – Monroe County Parks & Recreation Foundation President, Amy Thompson, told the Board that Dave Landis had retired from his service as a Monroe County Parks & Recreation Foundation member and she would like to replace him with someone she feels has a strong interest in recreation. She continued by telling the Board that she has reached out to two people, and one has temporarily deferred, noting that she is hoping that this person will reconsider in the summer, because the Monroe County Parks & Recreation Foundation has room to expand its membership.

Ms. Thompson made a motion to appoint Stephen Casper to the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Foundation Board and Dr. VandeWiele seconded.

Ms. Thompson went on to say that she has known Mr. Casper since 2014, he is a native of Jasper Indiana and a graduate of Indiana University in Bloomington and Logan University in St. Louis. He is a chiropractor, and completed his residency in Knoxville Tennessee, and upon returning to Indiana he worked at Bloomington Sports and Wellness as a staff chiropractor for four years.

During this time Mr. Casper taught anatomy and physiology for Ivy Tech College, and in 2014 he founded Bloomington Adult Sports Club, a social sports league that is still in operation today. In 2019 Mr. Casper opened his own practice near Bryan Park, his interests in the Monroe County Parks & Recreation Foundation stems from his understanding that our great outdoor public spaces need stewards, and his aim is to help people become active, engaged, and connected through outdoor activities.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			x
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Maintenance Technician approval for hire – Ms. Witmer told the Board that one of the Parks Department’s maintenance technicians, Eric Trusty, has resigned, and the Parks Department has gone through the complete process of the Park Board policy and the Monroe County Council policy, and would like to recommend Brian Eads to replace Mr. Trusty. Mr. Eads is currently the maintenance hub manager for the sheriff’s substation, and he does an excellent job. He is a very nice guy, and a master mechanic and handy man, which will help the Parks Department tremendously.

Ms. Thompson moved to approve Brian Eads as the new maintenance tech for Monroe County Parks & Recreation and Dr. VandeWiele seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			x
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Tree Inventory, Risk Assessment and Removal Policy review – Ms. Witmer explained to the Board that a few years back Margie Rice, County Legal, had written a tree removal policy for the Parks Department with help from Ms. Thompson. Since then the Parks Department feels it best to change some of the language in order to be able to do a retainer. The Board looked over the new tree removal policy. Ms. Thompson added that she feels it is good to have someone on retainer in case tree removals need to be done quickly and they are beyond the scope of the park maintenance staff.

Ms. Thompson made a motion to approve the revised Tree Inventory, Risk Assessment and Removal Policy and Mr. Goss seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			x
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Bluestone Tree Service retainer agreement – Ms. Witmer told the Board that the Parks Department was recommending hiring Bluestone LLC for the retainer agreement not to exceed \$20,000 in one year, noting that the funding would come out of the County General Greenway Professional Services and 1179 Non-Reverting Contractual lines. Dr. VandeWiele asked if the Parks Department has used Bluestone LLC in the past. Ms. Witmer told the Board that the reason the Parks Department has used Bluestone in the past, is because they have very large equipment and in a weather event on the Greenway, Bluestone LLC can take care of it immediately.

Dr. VandeWiele made a motion to hire Bluestone LLC on retainer to deal with any tree removal issues up to \$20,000 until January 01, 2023 and Mr. Dogan seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			x
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

E. IU-Bloomington Dept. of Biology annual permission to continue a long-term bird research project on the Mitigation Property – Ms. Witmer explained to the Board that when INDOT owned the mitigation property, they gave permission to IU Biology to do a long-term bird project, and each year they have asked the Parks Department for permission to continue the project, and the Parks Department has given them permission each year. The IU Biology Professor and students take wonderful care of the property, and INDOT is aware and supports this research.

Ms. Harrell mentioned to the best of her knowledge there is not currently an agreement with IU Biology for them to conduct their research, but they have been going out to the property during the time that the property has been under the management of the Parks department, and Ms. Witmer suspects that the professor and students may need to go out to the property soon. Ms. Witmer told the Board that an agreement could be started, but IU Biology may need access to the land before the agreement is completed.

Dr. VandeWiele asked Mr. Schilling if the Board could give IU Biology Department permission to access the mitigation property without a formal agreement. Mr. Schilling told

the Board they could go ahead and do that, and he will check with the County's insurance company. Ms. Brunelle mentioned that the Parks Department has volunteer waivers for when there are events at the park, so in the meantime, would it be possible to have the researchers sign the waiver. Mr. Schilling said if they are willing to do that, he thinks that would take care of it. Ms. Witmer said she thinks they would be willing to do that, so if the Board would like to give permission for IU Biology to continue their research, she and Ms. Brunelle can take care of the waivers, and she and Mr. Schilling can talk about a long term agreement.

Mr. Dogan made a motion for the IU Biology researchers to have access to the mitigation property for bird studies, contingent on them either filling out the waivers for volunteers, or entering into a formal agreement with the Monroe County Parks & Recreation Board for access to the mitigation property and Ms. Thompson seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X
VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			x
Harrell	X			X

The motion passed unanimously.

F. Karst Athletic Complex soccer goal quotes (County Council approved \$25,000) – Mr. Wilhoit and Mr. Robertson presented quotes from two different vendors for the new soccer goals at Karst Athletic Complex: Eurosport (Soccer.com) for three pairs equaling \$21,140.63 and for four pairs equaling \$28,187.50 and BSN Sports for three pairs equaling \$22,258.55 and for four pairs equaling \$29,045.30. The Parks Department staff recommended going with the four pairs of goals instead of three. After discussion by the Board it was decided to go with Eurosport (Soccer.com) for the four pairs equaling \$28,187.50.

Mr. Goss made a motion to approve the purchase of four pairs of goals from Eurosport (Soccer.com) for \$28,187.50 and Mr. Cornwell seconded.

Roll Call:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Electronic</u>
Harrell	X			X
Goss	X			X
Thompson	X			X

VandeWiele	X			X
Dogan	X			X
Cornwell	X			X
Walter	X			x

The motion passed unanimously.

G. Karst Athletic Complex 2021 annual report – Mr. Stan Robertson, Mr. Wilhoit, and Ms. Witmer presented the 2021 Karst Athletic Complex annual report. Ms. Witmer told the Board that she hoped everyone had a chance to look over the report and she would get hard copies out to any Board members upon request. Mr. Robertson told the Board that even though the complex was shut down for two months in 2020, everything seems to be getting back on track and 2021 was a great year.

Mr. Wilhoit concurred with Mr. Robertson that it was a good year, noting that there were a lot of new user groups, because of schools restrictions for lacrosse not being able to use the fields and hosting more neutral site games with Indiana Youth Soccer, so the revenue went up for the first time to over \$130,000, and that was without some of the IU & Bloomington camps that we've had in the previous years.

Mr. Wilhoit continued by telling the Board the Parks Department was hoping to host IU soccer camp this summer, but just found out that Grandview Elementary will be refinishing their flooring, so the Parks Department cannot use them as a home base, therefore we will be pushing back the IU soccer camp one more year, but anticipate everyone else being back this year. Ms. Witmer told the Board she felt that the park staff did a wonderful job in helping put the report together and she believes the report is the most comprehensive report the Parks Department has ever given to the Board.

- XI. **Financial Reports** – Please read
- XII. **MCPR Staff Reports** – Please read
- XIII. **Correspondence** – None
- XIV. **Mr. Goss made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dr. VandeWiele seconded.**

President Evelyn Harrell adjourned the MCPR Board meeting at 4:50 pm.



 Amy Thompson-Secretary

3/23/22

 Date