MINUTES BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2011

The regular meeting of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority's Board of Commissioners was held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at Stony Creek Metropark at the Nature Center. The meeting was convened in pursuance to a call thereof by the Executive Secretary and due notice to the HCMA Board of Commissioners.

Present: Commissioners: Harry E. Lester

Robert W. Marans Anthony V. Marrocco John E. La Belle Warren C. Evans John C. Hertel John P. McCulloch

Staff Officers:

Director David C. Moilanen
Deputy Director Gregory J. Almas
Controller David L. Wahl
Executive Secretary George Phifer

Absent: None

Others: Legislative Consultant George Carr

Attorney Michael P. McGee

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lester at 10:30 a.m.

1. Chairman's Statement

Chairman Lester said that the directional signs in the parks need larger print. He said we have beautiful parks and that we need beautiful signs in and around the parks.

2. Public Comments

Toni Spears, HCMA volunteer, thanked staff for their efforts in putting together the Strategic Plan.

3. Minutes – May 2011

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Evans that the Board of Commissioners approve the May 12, 2011 regular meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Financial Statements – May 2011

It was moved by Commissioner Marrocco, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the financial statements for May 2011 be approved as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Vouchers

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Marrocco that the vouchers for May 2011 (0216834 through 0217343) be approved as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Purchases

It was moved by Commissioner Marrocco, supported by Commissioner Marans that the following purchase be approved as recommended by Purchasing Manager Scott Michael and staff.

• ITB-FH-10-111622, city of Farmington Hills, Road Rock Salt – Metro Beach, Stony Creek, Indian Springs, Kensington, Huron Meadows, Hudson Mills

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Evans, supported by Commissioner Marans that the following purchase be approved as recommended by Purchasing Manager Scott Michael and staff.

• RFQ-11-012, Personnel Scissor Lift – Indian Springs

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

A. Metro Beach

1. Bids - Dumpster Enclosure, Activities Building

Chief Engineer Arens reported the project is to construct a dumpster enclosure at the Activity Center, including masonry walls, gate and concrete slab and foundation. The enclosure is required to screen dumpsters from view, contain debris and improve customer service.

Arens stated a purchase order for this project was originally awarded to Buxton of Brighton Building Co. in the amount of \$11,750.00; budget amount was \$19,000 with a work order issued for \$13,000 and \$6,000 refunded to the Reserve Account at the Oct. 14, 2010 meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Subsequently Buxton of Brighton went out of business and the purchase order was cancelled.

It was moved by Commissioner Marrocco, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the Board of Commissioners approve the issuance of a Purchase Order to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Lesley Young Masonry, in the amount of \$16,300.00 and that a transfer of funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 be made from the Reserve Account to cover the Total Proposed Work Order as recommended by Chief Engineer Arens and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

B. Stony Creek

1. Bids – Water Service and Sanitary Service Agreements

Chief Engineer Arens reported that staff is undertaking a project to evaluate the water and sanitary sewer systems at Stony Creek Metropark, and to repair and/or reconstruct portions of these systems. Both systems range between 40 and 50 years old and are becoming deteriorated. The existing water service agreement with Shelby Township should be revised and a new sewer service agreement with Shelby Township should be developed to replace the existing agreement with the city of Rochester. The evaluation project was prompted by several recent issues, summarized as follows.

- Water System Issues:
 - Frequent breaks in the 42-year-old 4-inch and 6-inch plastic water mains serving the Eastwood Beach and Boat Launch areas.
- Sanitary Sewer System Issues
 - Excessive infiltration of lake water and/or groundwater into the section of sewer main running along and under Stony Lake; infiltration is estimated to cost \$24,000 in excess sewerage costs annually.

- Recent video inspections of major portions of the system showed numerous breaks and leaks throughout the system.
- Recent breaks in the 6-inch force main downstream of the East Boat Launch pump station, and concerns about its condition and integrity.
- Concerns regarding the condition and integrity of the force main under Stony Lake.

Arens said the project will include:

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

• Full-length and sectional cured-in-place pipe and sectional repairs, plus preconstruction video inspection of gravity sewers.

Water Main Replacement

 Replacement of the 4-inch and 6-inch plastic mains from the existing 12-inch main to the Eastwood Beach and Boat Launch areas.

Construct New Gravity Sewer to Shelby Township System

 Replace the existing 6-inch sewage force main from the Boat Launch pump station to the 6-inch city of Rochester force main (along Washington Road) with a new gravity sewer main to the Shelby Township system; eliminate the Boat Launch pump station.

New Water Service Agreement

- In order to implement the Water Main Replacement, it is recommended that the
 existing water service agreement with Shelby Township be replaced with a new
 agreement.
- The proposed new water service agreement with Shelby Township reflects the proposed changes to the system and clarifies the responsibilities of HCMA and Shelby Township. The proposed new agreement also clarifies the status of the 12-inch AC main extending into the park. This main should remain under Shelby Township's responsibility for ownership and operation, along with any future obligation to repair and/or replace it.
- It is the result of numerous discussions between HCMA staff and Shelby Township staff over the last year or so. The parties are in agreement on issues outlined above, and the proposed agreement has been reviewed by HCMA's and Shelby Township's respective attorneys.

o New Sanitary Sewer Service Agreement

- In order to implement the New Gravity Sewer to Shelby Township, it is recommended that a new sewer service agreement with Shelby Township be made to ultimately replace the existing sewer service agreement with the city of Rochester. The background and justification for this are as follows.
- As with the water system agreement, major portions of the Stony Creek sewer system lie physically outside of Shelby Township. While some portions lie in Shelby Township, major portions of it are located in Washington Township (Macomb County) and other parts lie within Oakland Township (Oakland County). Therefore, coordination with Washington and Oakland Townships is necessary for Shelby Township to provide out-of-jurisdiction utility service to Stony Creek Metropark, and their consent to out-of-district water service will be included as an attachment to the proposed agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached Water Service Agreement and Sanitary Sewer Service Agreement with Shelby Township as recommended by Chief Engineer Arens and Staff and subject to the review by Commissioner Marrocco and Commissioner McCulloch.

7. Reports

B. Stony Creek

2. Agreement – AirMarc, LLC for Waterslide

Deputy Director Almas reported that AirMarc, LLC is requesting to install and operate an inflatable water slide at Eastwood Beach within Stony Creek Metropark. Operation of the slide, if approved, would commence as soon as AirMarc, LLC can order and install the slide and end on Labor Day.

Almas said that the initial agreement for the 2011 summer season would be considered a trial. The agreement could be renewed if the trial is evaluated as a success.

The Agreement provides in part that:

- AirMarc, LLC shall provide the structure and provide staffing for the operation;
- AirMarc, LLC shall pay the HCMA a commission of 20 percent of sales with a minimum guarantee of \$2500 per month; and that
- AirMarc, LLC shall provide insurance in the amount of \$1million / \$2 million naming HCMA as an additional insured.

It was moved by Commissioner La Belle, supported by Commissioner Evans that the Board of Commissioners approve the Agreement with Airmarc, LLC d/b/a Rip Slide on a one season trial basis as recommended by Deputy Director Almas and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

C. Indian Springs

1. SolarPower Easement Agreement – DTE Energy SolarCurrents Project

Chief Engineer Arens reported that at the May 12, 2011 meeting of the Board of Commissioners, staff presented a proposal for a SolarPower Easement Agreement with DTE Energy under DTE's SolarCurrents program. This proposal was developed in response to the Board of Commissioner's Nov. 11, 2010 direction to staff to negotiate with DTE toward the development of a photovoltaic power project at Indian Springs.

Arens reported that DTE's estimated cost to construct the project will be approximately \$2.2 million and that the program requires the Authority to enter into a 20-year contract with DTE.

Arens reported that at its May 12 meeting, the Board of Commissioner directed staff to continue working with DTE on the Agreement and to address its terms and proposed compensation.

Arens reported that staff believes this project offers several benefits to the Metroparks and will support HCMA's overall goals for sustainability in the Metroparks.

Arens also reported that the project will provide an alternative power generating system on a meaningful scale at a highly visible sight within the park and will provide an opportunity for HCMA and DTE Energy to become partners in supporting and promoting education of alternative energy systems.

It was moved by Commissioner La Belle, supported by Commissioner Marrocco that the Board of Commissioners move to indicate our willingness to proceed with this project, pending the review by an independent legal firm and that there be a review of the business decisions related to the plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

D. Hudson Mills

1. MNRTF Grant Agreement and Resolution, Hudson Mills – Dexter Trail

Chief Engineer Arens reported that the Board of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) awarded a grant in the amount of \$500,000 for the Hudson Mills – Dexter Hike-Bike Trail. This trail will be approximately three miles in length and will extend from the southern end of the existing West Side Trail to the northern end of the village of Dexter's Warrior Park trail. The Hudson Mills – Dexter Trail will include 13,800 lineal feet of 10-foot wide asphalt path, 1,480 lineal feet of 12-foot wide boardwalk, and two steel pedestrian bridges.

In order to receive the MNRTF grant, the Board of Commissioners is required to enter into a MNRTF Development Project Agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and to pass a Resolution accepting the terms of the Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner McCulloch that the Board of Commissioners approve the Development Project Agreement and Resolution as recommended by Chief Engineer Arens and made by staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Dexter – Huron

1. Agreement – Trail Development and Maintenance

Chief Planner Nyquist presented the final intergovernmental agreement between the Authority and Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPRC) for the construction and maintenance of the River Terrace Trail from the village of Dexter and into Dexter-Huron Metropark. Nyquist reminded the Board of the key terms of the agreement including that WCPRC will fund 100 percent of the costs to design and construct the 1.42 miles of trail; and that future maintenance and repairs will be shared equally by both parties for the portion of the trail that is on Metropark property.

It was moved by Commissioner Marrocco, supported by Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners approve the River Terrace Trail Development, Repair, and Maintenance Agreement with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission for the development of a non-motorized paved trail in Dexter-Huron Metropark as recommended by Chief Planner Nyquist and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

F. Administrative Office

1. Discussion of Attorney Use (Joint Representation)

Director Moilanen reported that at the May 12 Board meeting, Commissioners expressed concern about the Metroparks and DTE using the same law firm in the development of the easement agreement for DTE Energy SolarCurrents project. Questions were raised about the propriety of using the same firm in the negotiation of the contract, and if there are situations where joint representation comes up should the Board or should staff make the consent to joint representation. In order to clarify the general process, procedures and policy in situations of joint representation, the concerns voiced are being brought before the Board again for Commission discussion.

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Marrocco that whenever potential conflict exists due to joint representation; that another law firm may be considered; and that the issue be brought before the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

F. Administrative Office

2. Strategic Plan Update

Director Moilanen reported that staff continues to work on the Metroparks Strategic Plan and that members of this committee come from all departments of the organization and from the Commission.

Moilanen reported the Strategic Plan will provide a tactical approach to the development, operations and management of the park system in the coming five to 10 years. Additionally, the plan development process in itself is serving to help achieve one of the plan's primary goals, which is to change the culture within the organization.

Moilanen also said working alongside Commissioner La Belle on this major project has helped to build a sense of teamwork between staff and Commission. The energy and commitment from staff, as well as from other staff and Commission members, will be critical to implementing the strategic plan and to moving the Metroparks forward in a unified direction and purpose.

Moilanen requested Board members review the draft Strategic Plan, and offer comments and suggestions about the plan to him and that the Strategic Plan will then be brought back to the Board at the July 14 Commission meeting for final approval.

Commissioner Lester spoke about the need for camping in the Metroparks.

It was moved by Commissioner La Belle, supported by Commissioner Marrocco that the Board of Commissioners review the draft Strategic Plan, offer comments and suggestions to Director Moilanen and staff so that this information can be brought to the Board at the July 14 commission meeting as recommended by Director Moilanen and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Donations

It was moved by Commissioner Evans, supported by Commissioner Marans that the following donations be accepted and a letter of appreciation sent to the donors as recommended by Deputy Director Almas and staff.

- An \$850 picnic table and Red Oak tree donation made by Patricia Millstead in memory of Patricia's grandmother to be used at Kensington Metropark.
- A \$500 donation for the "Wear the Gear" program made by Matthew R. Wolf and Robert Wolf and Co.
- A \$500 donation for the "Wear the Gear" program made by CNA.
- A \$400 bench donation made by Elizabeth Bell in memory of Kathy Lindsey to be used at Kensington Metropark near the Nature Center.
- A \$400 bench donation made by the Miller family in memory of Janet Miller to be used at Kensington Metropark near the Nature Center.
- A \$350 bench donation made by Deanna Demgen to be used at Lake Erie Metropark.
- A \$250 donation for the "Wear the Gear" program made by McGraw Wentworth.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Legislative Report

Legislative Consultant Carr reported that the Legislature honored two of Gov. Snyder's top priorities by passing both the state budget and business tax reform by Memorial Day.

Carr reported the state's Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget was passed both in substance and form as requested by the governor. The budget was passed the last week in May and has been presented to the governor.

Carr said that on the business tax front, Gov. Snyder signed a package of the most significant business tax reforms in more than 30 years.

Car also reported that Authority specific issues began to move:

- SB7 This bill would mandate a minimum 20 percent contribution by all public employees toward their employer paid health care plan beginning Jan. 1, 2012. As passed by the Senate, SB7 would impact the Metroparks but allows for an opt-out by a two-thirds vote of the Board.
- HB4572 As introduced, this bill would impose a "hard cap" on public employee employer paid health plans. It would limit public employer annual payments to employee's health coverage to \$5,000 for a single person, \$10,000 for two persons and \$13,000 for family coverage.
- Act 312 Binding Arbitration following the action from last session, HB4522 was introduced again amending Act 312. As originally introduced the legislation would have expanded the application of fire and police binding arbitration to every local unit of government in Michigan, including the Authority. The intent of the sponsor and Speaker of the House was to enact reforms and not expansion. Therefore, the bill was quickly substituted to remove any expansion language or provisions.

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the legislative report as submitted by Legislative Consultant Carr.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Election of Officers

It was moved by Commissioner McCulloch, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the Board of Commissioners elect the following Board Officers for the following year:

Chairman Anthony V. Marrocco Vice Chairman John E. La Belle Treasurer John P. McCulloch Secretary John C. Hertel

Motion carried unanimously

9. Park/Department Presentations

a. Stony Creek

Park Manager Mike Lyons presented a PowerPoint presentation on the history, activities and programs at Stony Creek.

10. Director's Comments

Director Moilanen reported there was a selection process for the recent Eastern District Park Manager position. Staff recommends the Board confirm the appointment of Mike Lyons as the District Park Manager for the Eastern District.

It was moved by Commissioner La Belle, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the Board of Commissioners confirm the appointment of Mike Lyons as District Park Manager for the Eastern District.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moilanen also reported that the North Macomb Sportsmen's Club is offering a tour of their property following the Commission meeting if any of the Commissioners are interested.

Moilanen also provided copies of scheduled events at the Metroparks; mentioned the Michigan Philharmonic will be performing June 24 at Kensington; and that fireworks will be scheduled at various parks.

Moilanen let everyone know there will be a play ground dedication following the July 14 commission meeting at Lake Erie Metropark.

11. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Marrocco thanked the Board for appointing him Chairman and that he looks forward to working with everyone.

Commissioner Marrocco also mentioned misrepresentation by the Macomb Daily of the closing of Metro Beach and that staff should address the issue.

Commissioner Hertel thanked Commissioner La Belle for all the time and effort he has put in on the Strategic Plan, and also said he has done a fine job.

Commissioner Hertel also spoke about the sandbar at Metro Beach and that efforts to remove it will help with water quality and should be discussed with the new administration in Lansing.

Commissioner Lester thanked the board and staff for allowing him to serve the Board as chairman for the past two years.

12. Motion to Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Evans that the Board of Commissioners adjourn the regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Desig Philps

George Phifer Executive Secretary