

METRO EAST PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
104 United Drive, Collinsville, Illinois
Tuesday November 8, 2016

I. Call to Order President Gene Peters called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. Attendance / Establishment of Quorum

Present were: Harold Byers, Madison County
Jerry Kane, Madison County
Gene Peters, Madison County
Barbara Hohlt, St. Clair County
Earl McDowell, St. Clair County
Gregory Yank, St. Clair County

Michael Buehlhorn, Executive Director
Bryan Werner, Planner
Rene' St. Peters, Administrative Assistant

Absent were: John Papa, Attorney

Guest were: Sheila Kimlinger with TWM

III. Public Discussion and/or comment none was heard.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Hohlt to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2016 regular meeting as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

V. Consent Agenda

Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director Hohlt to approve the consent agenda items a thru e as presented on pages 5-28.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

VI. Finance

a) Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director Hohlt to approve the payments and claims for October 2016 MEPRD as presented on pages 29-35.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

b) Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director McDowell to approve the payments and claims for October 2016 MMMP as presented on pages 36-38.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

Sheila Kimlinger with TWM gave a report on the Metro East River Front Trail project.

VII. Executive Director's Staff Report

Executive Director Mike Buehlhorn made his report and discussed the following subjects:

The November sales tax check for FY17 was about \$6,500 under the previous year in the same month.

The audit has been completed and we are scheduled for a presentation in December.

All work at MMMP on the insurance claim has been completed and we are awaiting the final inspection from IPARKS to receive the remainder of the claim. Some additional issues with the fencing on Trendley occurred recently.

The Front Street Project bid opening was approved by the St. Clair County Board at their recent meeting. A groundbreaking was held on November 1 at Malcolm Martin Memorial Park. Construction on the northern phase is set to begin as soon as possible. Directors Barbara Hohlt and Harold Byers were on hand for the ceremony.

On Friday, November 4, IDOT opened the bids for the Scott – Troy Trail. There were two bidders. The engineers estimate was \$7,214,000. The low bidder was Keller Construction of Glen Carbon at \$5,948,081, which is about \$1,269,919 under the estimate. Plocher Construction of Highland was at \$7.5 million. IDOT will review the bids for accounting errors and place the final tabulation on the website by week's end. We were informed late Friday from IDOT that they may use a portion of the remaining grant to pay a portion of the estimated \$876,000 in construction engineering. If allowed, no dollar amount has been determined at this point. The Executive Director outlined the potential project schedule from information on the application and Dan Sommers at IDOT.

The ITEP funding for the East Riverfront Trail from the park to the McKinley Bridge was denied. Chris Stone and staff have been meeting with various parties to find a path to fund

the estimated \$2 million. In relation to the project, a formal resolution will be on the agenda for the December Board meeting. There will be a full contract for the project with TWM as SCCTD's engineering firm. Sheila Kimlinger from TWM discussed the project and timeline with the Board.

In regards to our grant programs, there has been activity, but not as bustling as the last several years. Two reasons are the major problem. Many communities rely on two types of grants, OSLAD and ITEP. OSLAD grants are still on hold during the budget impasse, and of the 2016 ITEP grants awarded, not one was awarded in St. Clair or Madison County. There were many applications. Our consultant is trying to obtain the applicants names and projects to see if MEPRD can be of any assistance in moving the projects forward. Mike and Bryan will be out meeting with communities after the November elections.

The Gateway Geyser has been closed for the season. We are continuing to find alternative operations methods to keep down our costs, especially fuel costs. This has been an expensive year for repairs. Given the storm damage repairs, some equipment longevity has been increased.

There were many visitors to the park in the last several weeks. There were eight wedding parties, and two additional this past weekend. The park is fast becoming the after wedding photo place.

Bryan Werner discussed that the Facebook page for the park is picking up with followers and people posting pictures and comments about the park. He also has created a "projects update" report and presented it to the board. This report gives a brief summary of all the projects that have been awarded and their projected reimbursement dates.

Bryan also discussed Resolution 16-23, a grant request from Edwardsville Township.

VIII. Old Business No old business to discuss

IX. New Business

a) Resolution 16-23 Re: Grant request from Edwardsville Township for \$13,796.25 for project titled: Restroom 2 Renovations.

Director Yank made a motion, seconded by Director McDowell to approve Resolution 16-23 Re: Grant request from Edwardsville Township for \$13,796.25 for project titled: Restroom 2 Renovations as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

b) Review and Release of Executive Session Minutes

c) Employee Compensation (discussed after executive session)

d) Report of Engineers/Attorney Nothing was discussed.

X. Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1).

At 12:05 p.m. Director Hohlt made a motion, seconded by Director Yank to leave regular session and go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1).

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

At 12:15 p.m. Director Kane made a motion seconded by Director Hohlt to return to open session.

e) Employee Compensation (discussed after executive session)

Director Byers made a motion seconded by Director Kane to award Rene' St. Peters a \$1,000.00 bonus for FY17.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Aye	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Hohlt to increase Bryan Werner's annual salary to \$75,000.00, retroactive to the beginning of FY17.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Nay	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

5 Ayes 1 Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

Director Kane made a motion seconded by Director Yank to discuss Mike Buehlhorn's compensation, at a later date.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers	Nay	Barbara Hohlt	Aye
Jerry Kane	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Gregory Yank	Aye

5 Ayes 1 Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

XI. Adjournment

At 12:20 p.m. President Peters asked to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Director Yank seconded by Director Kane to adjourn meeting. All voted aye on a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Rene' St. Peters
Administrative Assistant**

Next MEPRD meeting will be held on December 13, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.