

**Minutes of the August 14, 2019 Meeting of the Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners**  
**Location: Marilla Recreation Center, Morgantown, WV**

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:07pm.

**Establish Quorum:** Board Members Present – President Patrick Hathaway, Danielle Trumble, Rachel Fetty, Rick Landenberger, Jenny Selin, Edward Cordwell and William Hutchens. Director Melissa Wiles, Assistant Director Marissa Travinski, Brooke McKinney, and City Attorney Ryan Simonton were also present. Ex-Officio Treasurer Jim Goff was present.

**Minutes:** Danielle Trumble motioned and Rachel Fetty seconded for approval of the July minutes and minutes were approved unanimously.

**Correspondence:** No additional correspondence was reviewed.

**Oral Communication:**

Doug Smith from MUB spoke to the board regarding the White Park Soil Sample Results. A synopsis of the results was provided to the board. The full report is available on MUB's website. Mr. Smith indicated that the site assessment results were not surprising. The results were sent to the DEP for evaluation. The DEP responded that there would be no unacceptable risk to human health or environment if MUB follows the soil management plan. Mr. Smith asked the BOPARC Board to consider Routes 3 or 8 for endorsement. Rick Landenberger asked Mr. Smith why they weren't surprised by the results given the history of the tank sites in White Park. Mr. Smith answered that they were not surprised due to a 2009 report from the DEP regarding the area. The proposed routes will avoid the existing tank sites. Mr. Landenberger stated that when looking at the maps it appeared the samples were taken inside of the tank sites burms. A representative from MUB spoke and said the map was not to scale. Jenny Selin asked about where routes 3 and 8 come together. She asked if MUB has spoken with the property owner near that area about running part of the line higher on their property. Mr. Smith indicated that the property owner has not responded well to his phone calls. Rachel Fetty asked why only routes 3 & 8 were being recommended. MUB is recommending route 3 due to cost and it is a relatively straight line construction. Ms. Fetty also asked if MUB has had a chance to go back and do a more in depth financial analysis of route 5a. Mr. Smith responded that route 5a will be 5 1/2 million more (in construction costs only) than route 3. That figure does not include future costs related to the pump station. Danielle Trumble asked questions regarding routes 3 & 8. She asked if the costs included trails and Mr. Smith responded yes. Ms. Trumble then asked if it included the costs of maintaining the trails and Mr. Smith responded no but MUB will maintain the trail. She also asked if MUB would be willing to put in a bridge over the resevoir to provide better access to the trails and Mr. Smith responded yes potentially where route 8 would cross but would not cover the costs to maintain it. Ms. Selin mentioned that the more they decide on before the better the project will go. Mr. Landenberger expressed his concerns on **fragmenting** the forest and its impact to habitats and recreation. Mr. Smith indicated that MUB will work to stay within the 40ft swath to add the line. William Hutchens asked more for information on the estimates of each of the routes. Mr. Hutchens is most concerned about the estimates Route 5 and how the estimate was determined. Mr. Smith repsonded that they work with a contractor to determine costs. Mr. Hutchens stated that if MUB wants BOPARC's support then they must agree to maintaining the bridge that could be built as part of the project. Mr. Smith agreed to take care of the bridge maintenance but the details will need worked out. President Hathaway stated that it would have been nice to see the options on the table from the beginning. Mr. Landenberger asked is there was a systematic procedure that MUB can implement for future projects when using public property to get proper approval? Mr. Smith answered that processes have been changed.

President Hathaway opened the public portion and asked if there was anyone wishing to speak.

Kathryn Madison, Madison Avenue, relayed her concerns regarding White Park.

Mya Thomas, resident in White Park area, spoke of her concerns regarding the water line in White Park.

JoNell Strough, resident of First Ward, provided information to the board regarding potential tree damage in regards to the water line and the costs to replace those trees.

Courtney, Madison Avenue, spoke to the board regarding her concerns regarding the water line in White Park.

Twila Redding, Washington Street, secretary of the Greenspace Coalition, expressed her concerns to the board regarding the proposed water line in White Park.

A final patron spoke on his concerns regarding MUB's control over the route decision. He also addressed his concerns regarding the impact to White Park if the water line is put in.

Doug Smith from MUB returned to the floor to address some of the concerns of patrons.

**Financial Report:** Ex-Officio Treasurer Jim Goff reviewed the financial report. Mr. Goff noted that admission and concessions are up from last fiscal year. There aren't currently any issues or concerns. Jenny Selin asked if they were trying to figure out how to get the Krepps playground equipment installed sooner rather than later. Mr. Goff responded those discussions have begun with City Manager Brake. Edward Cordwell motioned and William Hutchens seconded to approve the Financial Report. Motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Director's Report:** Director Wiles reviewed her report. Director Wiles reviewed that the first phase of Ice Arena improvements are finished and BOPARC is working on the engineering with Mills Group for the duct sock for possible inclusion in Phase II. Ryan Hess, Mills Group, spoke to the board regarding the duct sock work, which would need to take place post ice season. The duct sock would help with humidity issues facing the rink in August and September. He provided the board with a design to review. The duct sock work is an intermediate step to improve the quality of the ice.

Jenny Selin asked when the pools shut down. Director Wiles replied that pools will close for the season Sunday, August 18. William Hutchens asked for a summary of the Marilla Pool pump. Director Wiles reviewed the pool pump had a catastrophic failure and had to be completely replaced. Danielle Trumble asked why the pools close so early. Director Wiles replied that it is a staffing issue.

Rachel Fetty motioned and Jenny Selin seconded to approve the Executive Director's report. Motion passed unanimously.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Update to Personnel Policies** – Item was tabled until the next meeting. No discussion or action was taken.

**MUB Raw Water Line** - City Attorney Ryan Simonton informed the board of a brief history of the raw water line discussion. MUB is requesting access to put a water line through White Park. The City Staff and BOPARC Staff want the input of the BOPARC Board and City Council before moving forward with license agreement grant. There is not a current agreement available at this time for the board to take action on. City Attorney Simonton indicated the best thing for the board members is to talk about preferences and issues that they would like addressed in the licensing agreement. William Hutchens suggested the board members have the discussion on what route everyone considered appropriate. Rachel Fetty stated she believes it would be more helpful to know what the timeline is. Danielle Trumble spoke and said her understanding of the timeline was MUB's meeting is on Monday and they hope to recommend a route. She also stated she had spoken with Paul Brake and MUB would be presenting to City Council COW on the 27th and will be on the agenda for City Council on September 3. City Attorney Simonton explained that his understanding was MUB will consider what route it is recommending on Monday and this issue is likely to be scheduled for a presentation at City Council's Committee of the Whole at the end of the month and is not on the Agenda for Tuesday. The board decided to go around the table and allow everyone to speak on the proposed routes. Rick Landenberger stated that he understands that MUB has heard the board's concerns. Mr. Landenberger was pleased to hear the impact for route 3 would be smaller than he expected but it would still greatly impact the park. He is a lot more in support of route 5 but he also recognizes that impacts on the community too if route 5 is chosen. Mr. Landenberger believes that the water line and getting trails need to be separate of each other. He would not say what his top route choice would be. Danielle Trumble stated that she is one of the more up to date members of the board regarding the water line and has continued to keep herself updated. She said that with commitments made today, she is in support of route 3. She is also not opposed to route 5. Ed Cordwell stated that he agrees with MUB. President Hathaway spoke and stated he wished would could back up to before any pipe was laid so he could

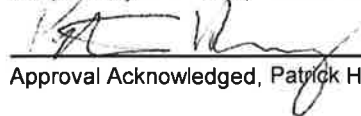
see where there could have been other routes. He personally sees both sides. President Hathaway feels that route 3 would be tearing down a city asset to benefit county residents. He stated that what is good for the park is to not tear down trees and that as a citizen he might be ok with route 3, but as a BOPARC Board member he would choose route 5. Jenny Selin analyzed the routes and loves route 5 in respect to trees and invasive species but route 5 has two sets of costs (the pump station and the cost to run the pump). Ms. Selin stated that if she had to choose between route 3 and route 8, she would choose route 3. Her concerns about route 3 are in the areas near Mississippi Street and the area where it dips down near the reservoir. Rachel Fetty asked a procedure question. City Attorney Simonton informed her that the MUB Board has not picked an official route yet but plan to on Monday. Rachel Fetty abstained from discussing the specific routes due her conflict as a first ward resident. William Hutchens prefers that the line not go through White Park. Mr. Hutchens would reluctantly support route 3 as his second choice. Mr. Hutchens believes it is BOPARC's job to protect the parks. Danielle Trumble spoke and said she agrees with William and Patrick but she has a difference of opinion on what BOPARC's board responsibility is. She does not see the value in a portion of a park that no one can use. Jenny Selin commented that even though the other side of the park is not used it is a wildlife habitat and serves as the view shed while walking on the used side of the park. William Hutchens asked to switch gears to the licensing agreement and asked if a subcommittee could be formed to discuss the licensing agreement. Jenny Selin believes everyone should put together their initial lists of what each member wants in the agreement and send to the subcommittee. Rachel Fetty thinks the most critical piece is that MUB will work with a landscape designer and arborist for any work for any route. She believes the agreement must be very clear and specific. William Hutchens wants the license agreement to be comprehensive. Jenny Selin would like to look at the water route and how trees can be avoided. She would also like to see a maintenance plan for the trails. President Hathaway suggested the board members send their thoughts on the licensing agreement directly to Director Wiles and the City Attorney. The City Attorney informed that board members that he would be happy to discuss the agreement with them as well. The BOPARC Board formed a subcommittee of William Hutchens, Rick Landenberger, and Jenny Selin to review the draft licensing agreement. Rachel Fetty wants the agreement to include that pesticides will not be used. Rachel also requested documentation from MUB that they tried to put part of the water line on private party.

**Board Comments:** Danielle Trumble has been in contact with the city and will be attending the Health and Wellness Commission Strategic Planning Meeting as the BOPARC Representative even though City Council has not appointed her over the last 8-9 weeks since she was recommended. She is looking forward to the Celebrate Woodburn event this weekend and wants more information on the times and line up. Ms. Trumble also asked that BOPARC do a better job in the future of rescheduling canceled events. Rachel Fetty is very appreciative of Marila Pool Pump replacement and the speed at which it occurred. She is also appreciative of the progress at the Ice Arena. Jenny Selin appreciates the board's effort to move forward and work on strategic planning. President Hathaway did not attend Jazz in the Park but he could hear it from his house and the music was lovely. He also stated he wants restrooms in parks.

**Adjournment:** William Hutchens motioned for adjournment, Jenny Selin seconded and the meeting adjourned at 6:08pm.

Brooke McKinney

Respectfully Submitted, Brooke McKinney, Secretary to the Board



Approval Acknowledged, Patrick Hathaway, Board President

9/11/19

Date

10/9/19

Date