

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Hybrid Meeting

Natural Resources Assistance Council
Meeting Notes – Round 16 Applicant Presentations & Project Updates

January 10, 2022, 1:00 pm

Members Present

Vice-Chair Laura Ball, City of Westerville
Matthew Brown, Franklin County
Karl Craven, City of Westerville
Stephen Farst, City of Groveport
Nathan Johnson, Ohio Environmental Council
Jim Palus, The Nature Conservancy

Shannon Sorrell, City of Whitehall
Tyler Stevenson, Ohio Department of Natural
Resources
Steve Studenmund, Metro Parks
Chair Kyle Wilson, Franklin Soil & Water
Conservation District

Public Present

Steve Fleegal, Appalachia Ohio
Heather Dardinger, EMH&T Inc.
Cindi Fitzpatrick, Grove City
Steve Goodwin, Appalachia Ohio
Haley Ingram, Metro Parks
Jennifer Kline, Ohio Public Works Commission

Darrell Miller, American Structurepoint, Inc.
Carla Odebralski, City of Upper Arlington
Clark Rausch, City of Hilliard
Stephen Smith, Jr., Grove City
Kelly Sutherland, Grove City
Brad Westall, City of Columbus

MORPC Staff Present

Lynn Kaufman

Bevan Schneck

Edwina Teye

Meeting Called to Order at 11:02 am.

NRAC Membership & Staff Updates

- Chair Wilson announced a Call for Nominations for the Council seat left open by Maureen Lorenz. This is a Group 2 Environmental Groups Seat.
- Edwina Teye, MORPC, will be the new liaison for District 3.

Approval of May 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Member Studenmund moved to approve the May 10 minutes; Vice-Chair Ball seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Available Funds

Chair Wilson announced that the current balance available for Fiscal year 2022/Round16 is \$3,301,578. This includes the \$15,000 administrative costs.

Jennifer Kline announced the launch of a new OPWC Portal.

Project Updates

Columbus Recs & Parks

CCOAB/15 – 01 Cherrybottom Park Expansion – Capitol City Baptist (complete by 9/1/2022)
Negotiations are ongoing with the property owner. No extension is being requested.

CCOAA/ 15 – 02 Cherrybottom Park Expansion – Venice Club (complete by 9/10/2022)
Negotiations are ongoing with the property owner. No extension is being requested.

CCIAG/ 15 - Dry Run Stream Restoration- (complete by 12/31/2021)
Project is complete. Submitting reimbursement documents to OPWC.

CCKAF/11 – 03B Eastmoor Green Line (complete by 01/1/2022)
Purchase is nearly completed. Requesting an extension to January 1, 2023.
Vice-Chair Ball moved to extend, Member Studenmund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CCNAF/14 – 10 Stockbridge Urban Forest (complete by 01/01/2022)
Project progressing. Demolition of the former school building and parking area completed.
Will be performing Spring and Fall of 2022 tree plantings and site restoration to complete the project. Requesting an extension until January 1, 2023.
Member Brown moved to extend, Member Paulus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CCNAA/14 – 04 East Broad Street Preserve (complete by 01/01/2022)
Project is complete. Submitting reimbursement documents to OPWC.

CCOAF/15 – 03 Refugee Road- Mason Run Protection- (complete by 12/15/2021)
Project is nearly complete. Acquisition is completed. Will be submitting reimbursement documents to OPWC in March 2022. Requesting an extension until July 1, 2022.
Member Studenmund moved to extend, Vice-Chair Ball seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Grove City

Marsh Run Stream Restoration in Gantz Park
Requesting an extension until January 1 2023
Member Brown moved to extend, Member Paulus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City of Whitehall

Whitehall Community Park Stream Restoration
Project is complete.

Big Walnut Creek Riparian Enhancement & Access
Project is complete.

City of New Albany

Taylor Farm Acquisition on Rocky Fork Creek
The City of New Albany acquired Taylor Farm in June 2021. The request for disbursement was submitted in November.

Appalachia Ohio Alliance

Utzingen Bog Conservation
AOA has completed most of the work on this project although payments requests have not been submitted yet for all the completed work.
Requesting an extension until January 1, 2023.
Member Johnson moved to extend, Member Farst seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Utzinger Bog Expansion & Enhancement - Scioto River Flyway Corridor

AOA has completed the Hancock acquisition and in the final stages of the Connelly swap and Partlow-Austin easement acquisitions.

Requesting an extension until January 1, 2023.

Member Farst moved to extend, Member Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Columbus & Franklin County Metro Parks

CCOAC/15 – 07 Little Walnut Acquisition (complete by 12/31/2024)

Acquisition is complete. Submitting reimbursement this month.

COAD/15 – 06 Big Walnut Acquisition (complete by 12/31/2024)

Negotiations are ongoing with the seller.

CCNAE/14 – 06 Nature Reserves Park Acquisition (complete by 11/1/2021)

Project has been terminated. Metroparks and the sellers were not able to come to terms.

City of Reynoldsburg (complete by 06/30/2024)

CCOAE/15 – 08 Blacklick Creek Stream Restoration and Riparian Corridor Enhancement

Project is yet to be started pending approval of ODNR Recreational Trails and Clean Ohio Trails Fund grants.

Preliminary Screener Presentations – please use the same Teams link above

Start Time	Applicant	Project Name
1:45	Appalachia Ohio Alliance	Karnes Addition – Utzinger Bog Preservation and Restoration- Phase 3
2:00	City of Grove City	Grovebrook Trail Area Restoration
2:15	City of Hilliard	Clover Groff Run Steam Restoration Phase II
2:30	Metro Parks	Schleppi Run Acquisition
2:45	City of Upper Arlington	Stream Erosion Control Education and Demonstration at Turkey Run’s Reed Road Park
3:00	Columbus Recreation & Parks	Big Walnut South Protection – Taylor Farm
		West Franklinton Greenspace Project

Please see MORPC.org for documentation.

Other Business

Steve Smith, Grove City, announced that Grove City would like to install a bike path on Protected Property. Cost of project would be borne by the City and it will be done in a way that does not detract from the restoration that was done with the West Water Run Stream Restoration Project. OPWC asked that Grove City present this to NRAC and obtain its blessing for doing so.

Member Farst moved to recommend to the Director of OPWC to allow an amendment to the conservation easement area of the West Water Run Restoration Project. The amount of the easement area to equal the area removed from the conservation easements associated with the trail relocation. Member Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 3:12 pm.