

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

Natural Resources Assistance Council
Meeting Notes – Round 17 – Policies/Criteria & Project Updates Meeting

May 9, 2022, 1:30 pm

Members Present

Karl Craven, City of Westerville
Stephen Farst, City of Groveport
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

Jennifer Kline, Ohio Public Works Commission

MORPC Staff Present

Lynn Kaufman Edwina Teye

Meeting Called to Order at 1:31 pm.

Approval of April 25, 2022 Minutes

Member Craven moved to approve the minutes; Member Farst seconded the motion, motion carried.

OPWC Update

- Round 17 will continue with the current numbering format, what would have been Round 18 will be Round 2023-2024.
- OPWC requests that all NRACs begin their process in March of each year and complete the process by November of the same year.

Approval of Budget & Work Plan 2022-2023

[Budget & Work Plan documents can be viewed here.](#)

Member Craven moved to approve the 2022-2023 Budget & Work Plan, Member Paulus seconded the motion, motion carried.

Project Updates

Members noted that many City of Columbus projects remain open. They may consider adding the number of open projects and number of extensions to future scoring qualifications.

Utzing Bog Conservation

(Jan. 2022 update) May require an extension, which will be discussed at the next NRAC meeting.

Dry Run Stream Restoration

(Jan. 2022 update) Project is complete. Submitting reimbursement documents to OPWC.

Stockbridge Urban Forest

(Jan. 2022 update) Tree plantings will continue through Spring and Fall Will of 2022 tree plantings and site restoration to complete the project.

Eastmoor Green Line

(Jan. 2022 update) Purchase is nearly completed.

Taylor Farm Acquisition on Rocky Fork Creek

The invoices for the Taylor Farm Acquisition are being finalized and expected to close out soon.

Marsh Run Stream Restoration in Gantz Park

Marsh Run is expected to wrap up construction this month. Plantings are expected to be installed by May 31 contingent on the weather. If not, plantings may extend to the fall.

Big Walnut

Negotiations are still ongoing with the owner of the property for the Big Walnut Acquisition project.

Blacklick Creek Stream Restoration and Riparian Corridor Enhancement

The project will be discussed during the June 27 council meeting with anticipated survey, engineering, etc. to begin in September.

Refugee Road – Mason Run Protection

(Jan. 2022 update) Project is nearly complete. Acquisition is completed. Submitted reimbursement documents to OPWC in March 2022.

Cherrybottom Park Expansion – Venice Club

(Jan. 2022 update) Negotiations are ongoing with the property owner.

Discussion of Policies & Criteria for Round 17

[Policies & Criteria documents can be viewed here.](#)

Jennifer Kline noted that the Council can use projected census data, as long as it is disclosed.

Approval of Policies & Criteria for Round 17

Member Studenmund moved to approve both the Scoring Methodology and the Policies & Criteria documents, with a note deferring per capita information to OPWC, Member Craven seconded the motion, motion carried.

Schedule for Round 17

[Round 17 Schedule can be viewed here.](#)

Member Farst moved to approve the Round 17 Schedule, Member Paulus seconded the motion, motion carried.

Adjournment 2:53 pm