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PRESS RELEASE

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Terms renewed for two members of Board of Park Commissioners

Port Clinton, OH, Dec. 21, 2023 – The Honorable Judge Frederick C. Hany II of the Ottawa County Court of Common Pleas renewed the terms of Jack Madison and Trish McCartney, for the Park District of Ottawa County Board of Park Commissioners. Park Commissioners serve three-year terms with no term limits. Madison and McCartney will serve through Dec. 31, 2026.

Madison, a resident of Catawba Island Township, has served on the Board of Park Commissioners for four years and was instrumental in helping start the Friends of Ottawa County Parks and the Catawba Islander Trail and Greenway Advisory Group. A 40-year resident of Catawba Island Township, and longtime employee of the Catawba Island Club and trustee for the Ohio Marine Trades Association, Madison is most energized by being part of a larger mission and observing the positive changes that have come to fruition. Seeing the lack of safe biking and connected walking paths throughout Ottawa County first prompted him to pursue a seat on the Park Board.

"Seeing the progress of trails in Ottawa County and the encouragement of fellow residents for the need to connect our county communities together is what I enjoy the most," Madison said of his service.

McCartney, of Port Clinton, was sworn in to the Board of Park Commissioners in June 2023, replacing retiring Park Commissioner Gary Kohli of Oak Harbor. A State Farm Insurance Agent/Owner in Port Clinton since 1998, McCartney is also active in several volunteer capacities and has lived in the city for 25 years. McCartney is a passionate advocate for nature and its many mental health benefits. She is a supporter of walkable cities and connected greenspaces, and believes parks greatly enhance quality of life for all.

"I have a passion for nature and believe that recreation is critical for mental health," McCartney said. "The movements to walkable cities and connected greenspaces are exciting and our communities are perfectly poised to be able to take advantage of these concepts. Parks enhance quality of life for all."

The Board of Park Commissioners approve policy, financial and strategic planning decisions, working directly with Executive Director Jannah Wilson of the Park District of Ottawa County. The Board of Park Commissioners is comprised of: Mike Shadoan of Oak Harbor, Judy Indorf of Danbury Township, Jack Madison of Catawba Island Township, Betsy Slotnick of Genoa and Trish McCartney of Port Clinton. Park Commissioners hold at least one board meeting per month at designated locations throughout the county. For a complete public meeting schedule, visit ottawacountyparksoh.org.

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