

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: January 27, 2021

Contact: Carrie Dittman, Centerville-Washington Park District, [cdittman@cwpd.org](mailto:cdittman@cwpd.org)

Subject: **Park Board Selects New Executive Director**



**CENTERVILLE, OH:** The Centerville-Washington Park District (CWPD) Board of Commissioners has announced Kristen M. Marks will lead the organization as the new executive director. She will succeed retiring executive director, Arnie Biondo. Biondo has held the post since December 2014.

Ms. Marks is currently the programs manager for the Centerville-Washington Park District. She has been with CWPD since 2002. She started as the Park District's naturalist, was twice promoted, first to outdoor education coordinator, and then to programs manager. She will transition to the executive director role on March 15.

Marks is a graduate of Michigan State University, continuing her education at Antioch University and Indiana University. She is the President of the Ohio Park and Recreation Association (OPRA), a member of the Centerville Noon Optimist Club, and she recently completed the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce Empower program.

Marks said, "I am truly honored and excited to serve our wonderful community in this new role. I look forward to leading the Park District's talented team of staff and volunteers in executing our mission to 'wow' park visitors, program participants and partners at every turn."

Under Marks' leadership, the Park District expanded program offerings to the community by 60% over five years. During the Covid-19 pandemic, her staff was able to modify existing programs and add many new programs to continue to serve a broad range of residents.

Retiring Director Biondo said, "Kristen is an excellent choice to lead the District for many years. She is intelligent, thoughtful, responsive and collaborative. Residents will continue to see many park and recreation advancements under her watch."

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# *Centerville-Washington* **PARK DISTRICT**

Executive Director of OPRA, Woody Woodward observed, “Kristen Marks brings a unique set of skills, accomplishments, personal qualities and experience to this position.”

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The Centerville-Washington Park District operates eight community parks, nine nature parks, and 34 neighborhood parks encompassing more than 1,030 acres in Centerville and Washington Township. For more information about the Centerville-Washington Park District, please call (937) 433-5155 or visit [www.cwpd.org](http://www.cwpd.org).

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