

MINUTES
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield, MO 65807
And via Microsoft Teams for Park Board Members
Friday, June 12, 2026

1. ROLL CALL

Chair, Susie Turner, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Park Board Members Present: Don Chenevert, Jr., Cody Danastasio, Curtis Jared, Dr. Dale Moore, Dr. Dianna Parker, Susan Turner

Park Board Members Absent: Philip Herzog, Mark McNay, Royce Reding

Park Board Staff Members Present: Tim Carpenter, Matt Coats, Jenny Edwards, Jim Fisher, Chris Gannon, Ben Kellner, Leigha May, Tim McCrea, Ron Schneider, Jill Simmons, Jackson Thompson, Lana Woolsey

Guests: William Angle, Leslie Carrier, Dr. Spencer Harris with Habitat Communication and Culture, Lauren Ozburn with Waters Edge Aquatic Design, Kyle McCawley with Waters Edge Aquatic Design, Kristi Beattie with Sapp Design

2. READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2.1. Don Chenevert, Jr., made a motion to approve the minutes from May 8, 2026, Park Board Meeting, seconded by Cody Danastasio. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 2.2. Don Chenevert, Jr., made a motion to approve the closed session minutes from May 8, 2026, Park Board Meeting, seconded by Dr. Dianna Parker. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. REPORT OF THE OFFICERS

- 3.1. Chair, Susie Turner, did not have a report.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 4.1. Chair, Susie Turner, reviewed the officer nominations presented at the May 8, 2026, Park Board Meeting, which included Cody Danastasio for Chair, Dr. Dale Moore for Vice-Chair, and Don Chenevert, Jr., as Secretary. No additional nominations were submitted. Curtis Jared moved to approve the slate of nominees for Park Board Officers for the 2026-2027 term, seconded by Dr. Dianna Parker. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- 5.1. **Board Member Service Recognition** Chair, Susie Turner, and Director Schneider presented commemorative plaques to Leslie Carrier and Curtis Jared in recognition of their six years of service on the Park Board. Chair Turner and Director Schneider expressed appreciation for their commitment to the community, valued leadership, and contributions to the Board during their terms of service.
- 5.2. **Presentation of the strategic planning recap** Director Schneider introduced Dr. Spencer Harris with Habitat Communication and Culture, who presented an overview the strategic planning sessions conducted with Park Board members and Parks staff in March of 2026. Dr. Harris reviewed the

collaborative process used to identify and refine the department's vision, goals, and organizational direction. Through these discussions, both staff and Board members identified four primary areas of focus to guide departmental efforts of the next 12 months: clarifying the Parks Department's core services, strengthening the Parks brand and identity, enhancing and measuring park safety, and realigning the department budget. Staff will provide quarterly progress updates to the Park Board on each of these strategic objectives.

- 5.3. Presentation of the outdoor pool analysis** Director Schneider introduced Lauren Ozburn of Waters Edge Aquatic Design, who presented the pool survey analysis of the six outdoor pools: Fassnight, Grant Beach, McGee-McGregor Wading Pool, Meador, Silver Springs, and Westport. Ozburn provided an overview of each facility, including current conditions, estimated remaining useful life, and identification of facilities that have reached or are approaching the end of their operational lifespan. The presentation included preliminary cost estimates for both continued operation and potential replacement scenarios, as well as recommended improvements tailored to each facility. Priority rankings were also presented to assist with planning and operational decisions for the 2027 season. Ozburn also noted that the assessment found overall cost recovery and revenue generation across the pools to be low and closely correlated with declining attendance trends at several facilities.
- 5.4. Proposed Capital Improvements and Second Addendum to Existing Contract (2002-277) with Boys and Girls Club of Springfield, Inc., for its Stalnaker Unit located within Smith Park** Assistant City Attorney, Lana Woolsey, presented an overview of the initial agreement with Boys and Girls Club, citing the capital improvements addendum brought before the Board would be funded from the Neighborhood Assistance Program ("NAP") Tax Credits with the State of Missouri, and come at no cost to the Parks Department. Don Chenevert, Jr., made a motion that the Park Board approve the Resolution, allowing the Boys and Girls Club of Springfield, Inc., to complete the proposed Capital Improvements at its Stalnaker Unit, located within Park Board's Smith Park, 1410 N. Fremont Ave., Springfield, MO 65802, authorizing the Park Board to enter into a Second Addendum to Contract Number 2002-277 to allow these capital improvements and to extend the term of this Contract to March 12, 2034. The motion was seconded by Cody Danastasio and approved unanimously.
- 5.5. Superintendent of Parks Business Report and Comments** Director Schneider provided a report for Business Operations ending May 31, 2026, noting continued strong revenue performances across several divisions. Sales tax revenues are trending well and are up approximately \$670,000 over last year, while zoo attendance and admissions revenues increased by approximately \$50,000. Recreation revenues showed a \$389,000 improvement over this time last year, archery program experienced revenue growth of approximately \$50,000. Golf continues to perform exceptionally well, with revenues exceeding the previous year by \$1 million.

Director Schneider also reviewed expense trends, noting increased costs associated with Park Ranger staffing and security services due to the filling of vacant positions and the use of private security in select locations. Recreations expenditures decreased in several program areas, including SPARC and aquatics. Construction and repair expenses increased by approximately \$600,000 over the prior year

to address critical unplanned maintenance needs, including HVAC repairs, roof replacements, sewer line improvements, and utility repairs. Golf expenditures also increased by approximately \$300,000; however, the increase remained significantly lower than the corresponding revenue growth.

Director Schneider reported that the current fund balance is approximately \$1.5 million and expressed that year-end revenues would help strengthen reserves. Director Schneider also referred the Board members to the monthly attendance and revenue reports, a ten-year fund balance history, and financial memorandum by Jerry Mitchell to summarize the key monthly highlights inside the board packets.

- 5.6. **Director of Parks Report** Director Schneider reported that Hambey Construction began at Grant Beach pool bathhouse roof replacement on Tuesday, May 26. Final completion and walk through is tentatively set for August 21, 2026.

Director Schneider shared the Request for Qualifications for design consultant firm for the Meador Park Pickleball project is currently being advertised with a submittal due date of Tuesday, June 23, with an anticipated project completion date of May 2028.

Director Schneider shared several Parks employee service anniversaries for June:

- *5-year anniversaries: Nicholas Cusick, Ryan White, Christine Peoples, Amy Francka, Richard Beck and Greg McComas.

- *10-year anniversaries: Tim Carpenter and Jennifer Penning.

- *20-year anniversaries: James Felin, Michael Lamkin, and Chris Kirby.

Director Schneider, Assistant Director, Jill Simmons, and Superintendent of Recreation, Joe Lane, conducted the first of a new quarterly site visit to several recreation facilities to evaluate current conditions, meet with staff, and assess service standards. During visits to Doling Family Center, Northview Center, Cooper Tennis Complex, and Chesterfield Family Center, staff identified a common theme across all facilities: the need for continued capital reinvestment and enhanced maintenance planning.

Director Schneider encouraged Park Board Members to attend an upcoming event, America 250 Celebration, hosted by the Rachel Donelson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park on June 14. The event will commemorate the nation's 250th anniversary and feature a park bench dedication, patriotic music, a color guard presentation and remarks from community members.

Director Schneider closed his report with updates on the impacts of the most recent severe weather, noting that the storms and flash flooding resulted in substantial debris cleanup efforts, program cancellations, and temporary facility closures. Director Schneider applauded the efforts of staff who redirected from normal operations to recovery efforts.

6. CALENDAR

- 6.1. Park Board Meeting: Friday, July 10, 2026, at 8:30 a.m., at the Park Board Administrative Office, 1923 N. Weller Ave., Springfield, Missouri.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- 7.1. Dr. Dale Moore made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Curtis Jared. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.