MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, April 11, 2014, 8:30 a.m.
Betty Allison Junior Club House at Oscar Blom, 1825 E. Norton, Springfield, Missouri.

I. ROLL CALL

John Price, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Members Present: Scott Bailes, Phyllis Ferguson, Paula Glossip, Kevin Hogan, Sarah McCallister, Mike Mellinger, John Price, Chair, Tim Shryack

Members Absent: Matt Bailey

Park Board Staff: Bob Belote, Jon Carney, Matt Coats, Mike Crocker, Jeff Cumley, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Dwight Fast, Shawn Freeman, Karen Herron, Mikael Irvine, Anne-Mary McGrath, Jerry Mitchell, Tom Moore, Miles Park, Kim Reser, Donald Travers, Ed Turley, Lana Woolsey

Guests: Angela Fillbeck, Healthy Living Alliance

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tim Shryack made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2014, Park Board Meeting, and the March 14, 2014, Closed Park Board Meeting as a group and as distributed; seconded by Ms. Paula Glossip. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. INTRODUCTION OF BILL AND PAYNE STEWART GOLF COURSE STAFF

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, introduced Shawn Freeman, who is the General Manager and Golf Professional at the Bill and Payne Stewart Golf Course. Mr. Freeman has been with the Parks Department since 1992. Mr. Freeman introduced four of the six member crew who meticulously take care of the golf course maintenance, including Mikael Irvine, Dwight Fast, Donald Travers, and Ed Turley. Mr. Freeman shared background information about the original Oscar Blom course. With the combined efforts of Dorl Sweet, Rick Grayson, Steve King, and Bobby Allison, they redesigned the golf course and enhanced the facility with revamped greens, added lights and fences--all within about 12 months. Juniors 12 and under can play free of charge with a supervising adult, Sunday through Thursday, at the course. Golf club rental for juniors is complimentary and available in junior sizes. Mr. Freeman stated that the week of June 9, he will host a week long golf clinic for juniors. Additional clinics are available at Rivercut and Horton Smith Golf Courses, too. For the first time, junior golfers can now purchase a summer pass for $99 after attending a required golf etiquette class.

IV. Recreateparks.com SURVEY INITIATIVE

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation, provided a summary of how we have collected input and feedback from park patrons at our events, activities, and presentations

made to local groups, along with surveying citizens attending community events not sponsored by Parks. The survey "tree" is equipped with I-pads for participants to respond to the survey, but when the tree was not used, paper surveys were substituted to collect input. After approximately a year of conducting surveys, the first round of results was shared with the Board members. Ms. McGrath stated that we have collected 1, 068 responses, with the majority of the individuals surveyed being within the 40-49 or 50-59 age groups, and 82 percent residing in the Greene County area. The survey tool was a short eight question survey as we did not want to take the participant away from the actual event they were attending. We will continue obtaining feedback at Artsfest 2014 this coming May.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director, stated that we have been working with Human Resources to restructure several positions with the department, including the reclassification of the Superintendent of Recreation position. The interview process has also been completed for this position, and we welcome Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath as our new Superintendent of Recreation.

V. HEALTHY LIVING ALLIANCE'S WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT

Mr. Belote introduced Ms. Angie Fillbeck with the Healthy Living Alliance's (HLA) Walkable Neighborhood Project. HLA is a partnership between the Downtown Y, Jordan Valley Health Department, Springfield-Greene County Health Department, Missouri State University, Springfield Public Schools and other community organizations to encourage healthy, active living in Springfield, Missouri. Ms. Fillbeck, along with a group of MSU students and volunteers, have visited 16 neighborhoods and attended community events to find out what residents wanted to see in their neighborhoods. Ms. Fillbeck shared the comments that residents suggested in respect to parks and trails with the Board members. Mr. Belote stated that this project matches up with the Parks Department's efforts to continue restoring our neighborhood parks and educating those neighborhoods about facilities, events, and programs that are already available nearby.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator The current "Know Your Parks" TV show features the spring/summer ball leagues and Miracle League with Mark Nelson and Cyrus Taylor. Brad Stulce also talked about SPARC summer camps and registration. A PoundFit instructor demonstrated this new fitness workout, which is offered at the Doling Family Center. We will co-host a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 9, following the Park Board meeting, at the Nathanael-Greene/Close Memorial Park waterway area.

Mr. Tom Moore, Superintendent of Special Facilities Mr. Moore stated that staff is expecting really good attendance at the "Easter at the Farm" event on April 12 to collect over 20,000 Easter eggs during the controlled hunts. Pony rides will also be available at the Farm. The Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center will host a four-state horse show.

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services In March, the weather offered several challenges again with extreme cold and warm temperatures. Remodeling work continues in the Park Administration Conference and Board Room areas. In March, the litter collection was 42,000 pounds.

Mr. Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Park Manager Mr. Cumley stated with the recent Olympic-themed activities at the Mediacom Ice Park, staff saw increase in the number of participants in both the figure skating and ice hockey programs. A Junior Ice Hockey Club will announce Mediacom Ice Park as their home soon as they look forward to growing the sport of hockey in this area and developing players for college teams.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker recently returned from The Tigers Coalition, which is a student-led group who are concerned with tiger conservation. The Tigers Coalition consists of universities who have "tigers" as their mascot. The Chair of the organization is a student at Mizzou and former Dickerson Park Zoo intern.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park reported that the Cherry Blossom Kite Festival was enjoyed by many guests due to great weather conditions. We appreciate the many volunteers who helped to make the event successful. Mr. Park shared photographs of the Liberty Schoolhouse project, which includes the bell tower addition. A pot belly stove has also been donated to add to the inside décor once it is completed. Mr. Park also shared photographs of the stormwater improvements at Nathanael-Greene/Close Memorial Park, which includes an interactive water feature for children.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser reported that the Accessible Recreation Division hosted a Spring Fling Dance in conjunction with a local Down Syndrome organization. The participants had a great time thanks to the many volunteers and partner groups who helped to make the event successful. The Miracle League spring session is looking for "buddies" who help the team members on game night. The Springfield Cardinals will be guest "buddies" on Monday, May 5 at the Miracle Field. Ms. Reser stated that the Special Events staff worked with American Heart Association and Missouri State University, along with other partnering organizations, to host an event promoting National Walking Day. The MSU students took a leadership role to facilitate the many activities and educational components of the event.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote mentioned that several Park Board Staff, along with the Park Board Chair, attended the City Utilities recent Board Meeting to personally present CU with the Missouri Park and Recreation Association Citation Award, the highest award given to a partnering agency. It was a great way to express our appreciation to CU for the many ways in which we work together for the leisure betterment of the citizens and our community. Mr. Belote announced that we have hired Mr. Paul Nahon as the Springfield Lasers General Manager. Mr. Nahon served as the Lasers Sales Manager last year and will continue to promote the Springfield Lasers. Mr. Belote stated that we will have three special marquee nights during the Springfield Lasers season this summer.

Mr. Belote mentioned the recent passing of Mr. Phil Broyles, Director of Public Works, who was a strong proponent of joint projects with Parks. He worked with us on stormwater, bike paths, and trail projects. We will host a dedication of one of our partnering project with Public Works on May 9 with the ribbon cutting of the Nathanael-Greene/Close Memorial Park stormwater improvement project. The dedication will follow the May Park Board meeting at 10:30 am.

Mr. Belote mentioned that we are partnering with the YMCA and Community Partnership on Saturday, April 26 in support of Community Play Day in Fassnight Park. We will also work with

the Y on May 10th with a Splash Day event, including free swim lesson demonstrations, water safety information, and community vendors, to promote water safety awareness.

Mr. Belote stated that we have received requests about exploring the possibility of moving Timmons Temple into Silver Springs Park. We are willing to entertain a formal a proposal from the group of citizens interested in preserving the building. Once the proposal is reviewed, and it is determined that it appropriately addresses the funding mechanism for all aspects associated with the move and operation of the building, it will be shared with the Board for their consideration.

VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. John Price, Chair, mentioned that the Mizumoto Stroll Garden will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2015. A committee of volunteers is interested in discussing some possible fund-raising ideas for future projects to enhance the Garden area. It was suggested that the Committee Chair be invited to a future Board meeting.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

X. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

XI. CALENDAR

The next Park Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 9, 2014, at 8:30 am. It will be held at the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion to adjourn to Closed Session; seconded by Mr. Tim Shyrack. The motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 9:57 am.