

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, October 11, 2013, 8:30 a.m.
Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park, 8325 W. FR 146, Springfield, Missouri.**

I. ROLL CALL

Tim Shryack, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Members Present: Matt Bailey, Phyllis Ferguson, Paula Glossip, Kevin Hogan, Sarah McCallister, Tim Shryack, Vice Chair

Members Absent: Scott Bailes, Mike Mellinger, John Price

Park Board Staff: Bob Belote, Nick Breithaupt, Jon Carney, Matt Coats, Jenny Cole, Mike Crocker, Jeff Cumley, Jake Dill, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Karen Herron, Cindy Jobe, Jerry Mitchell, Tom Moore, Miles Park, Jennifer Penning, Kim Reser, Lana Woolsey

Guests: Carolyn Gerdes, Springfield Sister Cities Association
Dan Smith, Greene County Highway Department

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kevin Hogan made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2013, Park Board Meeting, as distributed; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. INTRODUCTION OF RUTLEDGE-WILSON FARM PARK STAFF

Mr. Tom Moore introduced the Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park Staff who work together within the Special Facilities Division to facilitate the activities and events that take place at the Farm. Additionally, there are two employees who handle the maintenance and upkeep at the Farm, but were not present at the meeting. Mr. Moore mentioned that the annual Fall Fest consists of six themed-weekends with a variety of activities such as inflatables, corn cannon, cow train, corn maze, haunted trail, hayrides, live music, and different farm-related demonstrations. Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park will host the Park Board's Employee Appreciation Picnic on October 27.

IV. PRESENTATION OF CHECK FROM SPRINGFIELD SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION

Ms. Carolyn Gerdes, President of Springfield Sister Cities Association, presented a check to the Park Board in the amount of \$12,939.00, which represents half of the admission gate proceeds. With the help of over 200 volunteers, this year marked another very successful event. Ms. Gerdes mentioned that the Japanese Fall Festival Committee is looking into changing the date of next year's festival due to the competition of other community events the same weekend. Mr. Belote thanked the Sister Cities Association for their partnership and noted that the Sister Cities Association typically utilizes most of their proceeds to enhance the park.

V. DAVIS HOME AND PROPERTY UPDATE

Mr. Belote stated that last fall the Board toured the Davis Home and Property as part of our Parks Facilities Tour. It is located adjacent to Kreider Park in the Rivercut/Riverbluff area of southwest Springfield. Greene County acquired the Davis property for future highway improvements. Using an aerial map, Mr. Belote showed the Board where the property was located and discussed potential ways Parks may utilize the property through a joint-use agreement with Greene County, including using the Davis Home as a headquarters facility for the Springfield Community Olympic Development Program and utilizing the open space and the maintenance building as an outdoor and indoor archery facility. Currently, the inside and outside archery instruction ranges are in two separate locations. This would begin the process of developing the Kreider Park, while keeping it as a natural area and using minimal resources. The joint-use agreement would be a 10-year lease, with an option to purchase the property if funds become available. Currently, there are no capital funds for future park development or land acquisition.

Moving Park Board activities to this site would impact the budget slightly with just a few modifications and upkeep maintenance tasks. There is some potential to utilize the Davis Home as a rental venue for business meetings, functions, and retreats. There would be some cost savings from the current rental location that houses the indoor archery facility. Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion to pursue negotiations and formalize an agreement with Greene County for joint-use of the Davis Home and Property; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Belote spoke on behalf of the Nominating Committee and stated that Mr. Scott Bailes was confirmed at City Council's October 7, 2013, meeting as a Park Board member replacing Ms. Jerry Clark Quinn, who recently resigned. Mr. Belote stated that Mr. Bailes was a former City Councilman and professional baseball player, but he is also involved in community betterment professionally with his role with the Springfield Cardinals and as a parks and sports enthusiast. Ms. Paula Glossip, Chair of the Nominating Committee, mentioned that we were fortunate to have many qualified individuals who were interested in serving on the Park Board. Mr. Bailes will join the Park Board at the November meeting.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Park Manager Mr. Cumley reported that the Mediacom Ice Park will turn the ice pink soon in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month. The "Pink the Rink" event includes the Missouri State Ice Bears wearing pink jerseys for their upcoming game, and then auctioning off the jerseys at the end of the evening. All the proceeds benefit the Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks. Outside at Jordan Valley Park, staff are winterizing the fountain areas and decorating the park for Christmas.

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services Mr. Carney stated that this month's safety topic was winter driving and cold weather preparedness. Park Operations staff was busy assisting with the Japanese Fall Festival, doing a restroom makeover at Jenny Lincoln Park, and

attending to the landscape and outdoor lighting updates at the Skatepark. Mr. Carney mentioned that Mr. Jason Shaw received certification as a Certified Arborist by the International Society of Arboriculture.

Mr. Jerry Mitchell, Superintendent of Business Operations Mr. Belote mentioned that Mr. Mitchell had prepared a quarterly report for the Board's review. Please see Mr. Mitchell or Mr. Belote with any questions or concerns.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park mentioned that staff is preparing for the two MSHSAA championships, tennis and softball, which we will host later this month. Mr. Park stated that we hosted 2,300 league baseball games this season. In September, the vehicle counter at Nathanael-Greene/Close Memorial Park tracked 19,231 vehicles. Mr. Park mentioned that October 31 is the last day to visit the Mizumoto Stroll Garden. The Liberty Schoolhouse Project Phase One is underway, which includes moving the schoolhouse to the park site and making sure it is structurally sound and weather tight. A capital campaign has already begun to restore the schoolhouse. The Route 66 Roadside Park Project continues to move forward with Phase 2 which includes reviewing qualification statements from architectural and engineering firms for consideration in providing professional services to prepare construction contract documents. The seven-member selection committee hopes to have a consultant under contract sometime in November. The City of Springfield held a capital campaign kick-off event to raise funds for construction of the Roadside Park on October 2.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser mentioned that Special Events' staff will host our Halloween Fest on October 26 and 27 in conjunction with Fall Fest at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. The event will feature a pirate theme with a variety of activities such as a treasure hunt and walking the plank. Cooper Tennis Complex and Killian Softball Complex will host the Missouri State High School Athletics Association Tennis and Softball Championships October 24-26. The 19th Annual Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 28. Online registration is now open. Non-perishable food items will be collected during the event once again benefitting Ozarks Food Harvest. Turkey Trot is the largest single-day collection event for Ozarks Food Harvest. Proceeds from Turkey Trot are split between Developmental Center of the Ozarks and the Park Board's Scholarship Fund. Staff is anticipating 10,000 participants this year.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote reported that Greene County officials have been meeting with the municipalities to review the Use Tax Initiative that is on the November 5, 2013 ballot. The Use Tax is being brought forward to prevent cuts in vital services for Greene County Citizens by allowing the County to collect tax revenue on out-of-state purchases of \$2,000 or more in a calendar year. This is not a local sales tax increase. Mr. Belote stated that we are meeting with City Utilities officials to further discuss the use of Chesterfield Park in conjunction with their long-term water needs for that area within the community.

Mr. Belote reported that Park employees contributed \$10,400 to this year's United Way campaign. This amount represents a 15 percent increase from last year and a 70 percent increase from two years ago. The Employee Appreciation Picnic will be held at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park on October 27.

VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Tim Shryack, Vice Chair, encouraged citizens to take advantage of the many programs, activities, and events offered by the Park Board.

In response to Ms. Paula Glossip's question regarding the recent cooperative relationship with the Skatepark Association, Mr. Belote stated that the staff at the Skatepark has been very receptive and positive. They appreciate the Park Board's efforts in making repairs and landscaping upgrades. The Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Belote, the Parks Attorney, Lana Woolsey, and the Skatepark Association for working together during the transition period for the facility.

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 will be held at the Park Board Administrative Offices on Friday, November 8, 2013, at 8:30 a.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Phyllis Ferguson. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:38 am.