

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD**

Friday, April 12, 2013, 8:30 a.m.

Park Board Administrative Offices, 1923 N. Weller, Springfield, Missouri

I. ROLL CALL

John Price, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Members Present: Matt Bailey, Jerry Clark, Phyllis Ferguson, Howard Garrett, Paula Glossip, Kevin Hogan, Sarah McCallister, John Price, Chair, Tim Shryack

Members Absent: None

Park Board Staff: Bob Belote, Jon Carney, Matt Coats, Mike Crocker, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Karen Herron, Bill Ingemi, Johnny Mansker, Trey Metzelthin, Jerry Mitchell, Tom Moore, Miles Park, Kim Reser, Robert Uckele, Lana Woolsey

Guests: Emily Hegg, Springfield-Greene County Health Department
Bernice Richards, Citizen

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Jerry Clark made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2013, Park Board Meeting, and the minutes from the March 8, 2013, Closed Park Board Meeting as a group and as distributed; Mr. Tim Shryack seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. INBALANCE EMPLOYEE WELLNESS COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Mr. Bob Belote introduced Ms. Emily Hegg from the InBalance Employee Wellness Committee. Ms. Hegg thanked the Board for their partnership in the City of Springfield's wellness program and wanted to share the impact of the program. The InBalance Wellness Committee consists of a representative from each of the City departments. A wellness program was a topic that was requested by City employees in an interest survey. Since the start of the program, Ms. Hegg stated many departments have experienced a cultural change among co-workers including bringing healthier choices for lunch and walking or working out together as a group.

Employees are required to complete a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) or obtain a physical from their physician in order to receive the family membership discount voucher. Last year, 44 percent of City employees participated in the HRA process in May and June. The Committee has set a goal of 50 percent of City employees participating in the HRA process this year. To date, 30 percent of City employees who participated in the HRA process have redeemed a family

membership voucher. We recently extended the family membership discount voucher to Greene County employees, as well.

Parks Committee Representative, Bill Ingemi, stated that he enjoys sharing the principles and philosophies of sports medicine with the public and also with our Community Olympic Development Program athletes. Education is the key to helping individuals make changes through practical and solid foundation processes.

Mr. Belote recognized Ms. Bernice Richards as a recent recipient of the Lifetime Golf Pass which is awarded to golfers who achieve the milestone of their 90th birthday. Ms. Richards thanked the Park Board for her golf pass.

IV. PARKS CONCESSIONS AND CATERING REPORT

Mr. Belote introduced Robert Uckele, Parks Concession and Catering Administrator, who has been with the Park Board for 11 years. Mr. Uckele has taken the Park Board's Concession Program to a new level to include catering and extends his services to other City departments that use our facilities.

Mr. Uckele introduced his Concessions Supervisor, Johnny Mansker, who works with staff members in the various concessions stands at outdoor pools and sports complexes. Ms. Holly Garrison, who was unable to attend, is a contract employee at the Mediacom Ice Park facility. Additionally, Mr. Mansker and Ms. Garrison, both assist with special events and catering opportunities. Mr. Uckele shared some of the new concession menu items that also include healthy choice options; however, the number one item sold at concession stands last year were hot dogs—10,580 were sold in 2012. Mr. Uckele mentioned some new concession vending machine options featuring healthier choices that may be added to family centers in the future.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating Committee Mr. John Price mentioned that there were nine applicants for the one open City representative seat to the Park Board. The applications were reviewed by the Nominating Committee, the Director of Parks, City Manager, and Assistant City Manager. Three candidates will be interviewed. An update and appointment recommendation will be brought forward at the May Board Meeting.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services Mr. Carney mentioned that staff continues to learn the new equipment at Doling Aquatics Center. Staff is working to de-winterize park restrooms, concession stands, and turn-on irrigation systems and water fountains. Over 60 new trees were planted, many at golf courses, as part of our tree replacement program from the trees lost during the 2007 ice storm. Mr. Carney reported that 36,000 pounds of litter were collected from the parks and facilities.

Mr. Trey Metzelthin, Mediacom Ice Park Coordinator Mr. Metzelthin is substituting for Mr. Jeff Cumley who is out of the office today. Mr. Metzelthin stated that Mediacom Ice Park recently hosted the Division III American College Hockey Association Championship. There

were 16 teams from 10 different states. With over 1350 room nights over seven days, Mr. Metzelthin conservatively estimated an economic impact of \$500,000 for the community. During the competition, both sheets of ice were used. The final four teams were all from Minnesota, creating a very exciting and stadium-filled event. Mr. Metzelthin stated he received good feedback from the organizers regarding the facility, the staff, and the proximity of the tournament to hotels and the downtown area.

One week later, one of the sheets at the Mediacom Ice Park was converted to turf and hosting arena football with a new team and owner. The team is 3-0 and off to a good start.

Mr. Tom Moore, Superintendent of Special Facilities Mr. Moore mentioned that staff is getting crops ready to plant for the season at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. Mr. Moore stated that Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center continues with the Black Stallion Literacy Program with local elementary schools. Recently, the students visited the Equestrian Center and read to the horses. Equestrian Center staff continues to develop more outreach programs in the community including working with the Grant Beach Neighborhood Association.

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator Ms. Edwards stated that despite the weather, participants had a good time at the Easter at the Farm event held at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. The new edition of the Park Bench was distributed to the Board Members, and Ms. Edwards noted the Special Events section within the publication, along with the map on the back page.

Ms. Edwards invited the community to the Park Board's 100th Birthday Bash Celebration on May 18, 2013, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at Phelps Grove Park. She described the activities and theme of the day, which includes carnival games, 1913 concessions and matching prices, and the burying of a time capsule. Ms. Edwards participated in the review and selection of family-friendly short films from the SATO 48 contest. The films will be shown before the feature movie at Founder's Park this summer.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker stated that staff has finished adding additional seating areas throughout the Zoo and installing the new giraffe sculptures, along with updating landscape beds and gardens for the upcoming season. The maze that was built during Halloween is currently hosting an educational exhibit on snakes.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director With respect to time, Ms. Reser submitted her report as written.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park mentioned that contract mowers had finished their first mowing cycle. Mr. Park mentioned a variety of activities happening at the Botanical Center. The solar tram is now running on weekends until October for garden tours at Nathanael-Greene Close Memorial Park. Mr. Park stated that a sun dial from the 1700's was donated and placed inside the English garden at Nathanael-Greene. Mr. George Deatz donated a bronze sculpture of "ducks taking off" to the park, as well.

Mr. Park mentioned that a hackberry tree located in Jordan Valley Park is showing signs of decline. Certified arborists have inspected the tree and provided an assessment. Jordan Valley Park staff will keep a close watch on the tree especially after periods of inclement weather.

Every effort will be made to save this tree, which is listed in the Tree City USA registry as the Horton-Alexander tree, and was deliberately saved during the development of Jordan Valley Park. It is a tree that is used for shade due to its size and proximity in the park. The tree will continue to decline, but it is difficult to speculate how much or how fast. Eventually, it will have to be removed. In the meantime, staff will follow the tree canopy plan like we do in all our parks and make plans for future shade options in the park.

Mr. Park provided an update from the Trailspring presentation by Matt O'Reilly. Park Administration reviewed potential sites for a possible off-road bicycle facility, including the space immediately west of McDaniel Park. The donor of the land at George Moore Park wished for the space to be used as a tricycle park. Using Parks' model of "try, learn, play, compete," we are exploring ways to work with Trailspring in developing this concept for a bicycle facility. A master plan will be developed and approved before any construction is contemplated.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote provided an update on the AT&T fiber optics cell tower request for the South Dry Sac trail. It is City property, managed by Parks, so approval is needed from both entities to upgrade fiber going to the tower. The impact to park property is minimal. Mr. Howard Garrett made the motion that the Park Board approve and authorize our Chair, John Price, and our Director, Bob Belote, to enter into a revocable non-exclusive License Agreement with the City of Springfield and Southwestern Bell, said License Agreement to be substantially in the form as the document presented to the Park Board today, and further authorizing the execution and delivery of the License Agreement documents, with such changes therein as shall be approved by John Price, Bob Belote, and the City of Springfield, with the signatures of these individuals being conclusive evidence of their approval of same; seconded by Ms. Paula Glossip. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. John Price congratulated the Mediacom Ice Park Staff for their work at the Division III Hockey Tournament. Mr. Price attended a game during the tournament and received extremely complimentary remarks from participants and spectators. Several other Board members attended games during the event, as well.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

X. CALENDAR

The next Park Board meeting will be held on Friday, May 10, 2013, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Howard Garrett made the motion to adjourn the meeting to a Closed Session; seconded by Mr. Tim Shyrack. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:19 am to Closed Session.