MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, February 10, 2012, at 8:30 a.m.
Mediacom Ice Park, 635 E Trafficway, Springfield, Missouri

I. ROLL CALL

Jerry Clark called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Members Present: Jerry Clark, Chair, Matt Bailey, Howard Garrett, Paula Glossip, Bob Horton, Andrea McKinney, Sidney Needem, John Price, Tim Shryack

Members Absent: None

Park Board Staff: Bob Belote, Mike Crocker, Jeff Cumley, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Brandie Fisher, Karen Herron, Jerry Mitchell, Miles Park, Lana Woolsey

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Howard Garrett made the motion to approve the minutes below as a group; seconded by Mr. Sidney Needem. Minutes were approved unanimously.

January 13, 2012	Park Board Meeting
January 13, 2012	Closed Park Board Meeting
February 1, 2012	Finance Committee Meeting
February 1, 2012	Closed Finance Committee Meeting

III. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED FY2012-2013 PARK BOARD BUDGET

Ms. Clark stated that she appreciated the Park Board Staff's time spent preparing the budget documents and the Board's in depth review at the Finance Committee meeting and workshop before the document is presented to the Board for formal approval.

Mr. Belote provided an overview of the FY2012-2013 Park Board Budget, which includes that for the first time, Parks will not be receiving any General Fund support from the City of Springfield. We will continue to meet our financial commitments, and our revenue sources will be comprised solely from Park dedicated accounts such as the Parks Mil tax, Parks Sales Tax, grants, donations, and revenue received from fees and charges for programs and services. In the FY2012-2013 Park Board budget, we propose to restore services lost to earlier City budget cuts, particularly those related to the aquatics schedule and Mediacom Ice Park. Additionally, we will to continue to move forward with the second year of the Parks' Reorganization Plan, and we will continue finishing projects approved by voters as part of the 2006 Parks Sales Tax referendum.

Ms. Glossip, Finance Committee Chair, also complimented the staff for preparing the budget in a format easy to understand and review. Ms. Glossip made the motion that the Finance Committee recommends moving forward with the proposed Springfield-Greene County Park Board FY2012-2013 Budget, as presented by Staff and reviewed by the Finance Committee, to the Park Board for approval. In addition, the Finance Committee is recommending the Park Board give the Park Board Administration the latitude to make minor adjustments to the proposed Springfield-Greene County Park Board FY2012-2013 Budget, as needed, pending Springfield City Council and Greene County Commission actions/approvals; seconded by Mr. Bob Horton. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Park Manager Mr. Cumley welcomed everyone to the Mediacom Ice Park and extended an invitation to attend the dedication of the new Jordan Valley Maintenance Facility following the Board meeting. The new Jordan Valley Maintenance Office was funded by the City of Springfield's Capital Improvement Projects process and will house equipment used to maintain all downtown city parks and city owned property, in addition to providing a public pavilion space and restrooms near the trail. Space has been provided for future use as a possible snack shop or café. It was also mentioned that no parking spots were lost for the construction of the new building.

Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker stated that his staff is preparing accreditation documents which are due March 1 to the American Zoological Association. Dickerson Park Zoo undergoes an accreditation review every five years.

Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park reported that the Dickerson Park Zoo Tortoise Building project is progressing well. Mr. Park also reported on the status of the Dan Kinney Family Center and the Doling Aquatics Center. Mr. Park mentioned that the work on the Doling Lakes, Streams, and Waterway project has made a lot of progress and explained in more detail about the improvements being made to the stonework and infrastructure intended to intercept water runoff and treat it before it enters the lake. The Maintenance Staff is continuing to renovate and update the fixtures in the bathhouse facilities at Westport and Meador Pools.

Mr. Park mentioned the upcoming retirement of long-time employee, Ric Mayer, who has been instrumental in the development and maintenance of the greenways, and working with Ozark Greenways. His dedicated expertise for over 17 years has led him to an opportunity to work with the City of Joplin and their urban reforest efforts. Mr. Mayer and his trail knowledge and experience will be missed.

Mr. Bob Belote, Interim Director Mr. Belote mentioned that as part of the Park Tour in the Spring, we will be sure to include a visit to Doling Park to observe the many upgrades to the Park.

On behalf of Mr. Tom Moore, Superintendent of Special Facilities, Mr. Belote mentioned the successful Eagle Days' event we hosted with the Springfield Nature Center and Missouri Department of Conservation. Mr. Belote also stated that the Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center hopes to offer a Black Stallion literacy program with first graders throughout the Springfield Public School system in the near future.

On behalf of Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director, Mr. Belote mentioned that we recently hosted a sports clinic as an additional way to increase awareness of the Bee Payne Stewart Strut. The money raised from The Strut provides funds to Drury, Evangel and Missouri State University women's athletic programs, the Springfield-Greene County Park Board Scholarship Fund and the Women's Intersports Network (WIN).

Mr. Belote provided an update regarding the Chesterfield Family Center indoor pool challenges in trying to keep the pool temperature at the expected range of 83-85 degrees. Mr. Park and Ms. Reser are providing weekly updates to CFC members and staff. We are working with the engineering firm that designed the system to review the situation, but since the equipment is more than 10 years old, it is possible that we will need to purchase a new boiler system.

Mr. Belote reported that the City of Springfield will be releasing the results from the latest Citizen Survey conducted in 2011 by ETC, the company that also conducted our benchmark study a few years ago. Responses concerning Parks were positive with eight out of nine areas exceeding ratings from the previous survey. The data will be shared with the Board in more detail once the report is released.

Mr. Belote shared a report on recorded volunteer hours for 2011 prepared by Anne-Mary McGrath, Special Events Administrator, who also serves as the Volunteer Management Program Coordinator. Based on volunteer hours that were tracked and submitted to be recorded, volunteers contributed over 51,000 hours, which equates to 26 full-time positions and over one million dollars of volunteer support.

Mr. Belote commented that in the preparation of this year's budget, the community will notice that we are closing out 10 years of capital improvements. Over the next 12 months, we will continue completing the 2006 Parks Sales Tax projects. There are still many additional projects, initiatives, and even properties that we are interested in pursuing for the future of the park system. Until additional funding sources are identified, we will continue to maximize the tax dollars we receive to manage and operate our current programs and facilities.

The World Team Tennis marquee draft is next week, February 14. We are second in the draft, which we hope positions us for good draft selections. The regular WTT roster draft is March 13.

V. <u>CHAIR'S REPORT</u>

Ms. Clark stated that she appreciated the Board's responses and input in the long-term planning process and decision making for the Park Board. Ms. Clark mentioned that she also appreciated the Staff's response to the financial and personnel transitions that continue to take place.

Mr. John Price provided an update regarding his recent visit to Tlaquepaque, Mexico and upcoming events associated with Sister Cities. Mr. Price stated that there is community interest to commit funding and effort to assist Sister Cities is exploring the possibility of an Irish Sister City. The Sister Cities Annual Meeting is March 9, 2012. Park Board members are welcome to attend.

Ms. Clark mentioned that the Park Board has several established funds through the Community Foundation of the Ozarks for interested individuals, businesses, and organizations who are interested in supporting long or short range Park Board projects.

VI. <u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

VII. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

There was no new business to discuss.

VIII. <u>CALENDAR</u>

The next Park Board Meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 9, 2012, at 8:30 am, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

IX. <u>CLOSED SESSION</u>

Mr. Tim Shryack made the motion to adjourn to Closed Session; seconded by Mr. John Price. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 9:28 am.