

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

Friday, June 13, 2014, 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 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Matt Bailey, Paula Glossip, Kevin Hogan, Sarah McCallister, John Price, Chair, Tim Shryack

Members Absent: Scott Bailes, Phyllis Ferguson, Mike Mellinger

Park Board Staff: Bob Belote, Jon Carney, Mike Crocker, Jeff Cumley, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Karen Herron, Ray Hyncik, Anne-Mary McGrath, Jerry Mitchell, Tom Moore, Miles Park, Kim Reser, Matt Ruzicka, Diana Tyndall, Lana Woolsey, Wayne Zelenik

Guests: Greg Burris, City Manager
Mary Mannix Decker, Finance Director

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tim Shryack made the motion to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2014, Park Board Meeting, and the May 9, 2014, Closed Park Board Meeting as a group and as distributed; seconded by Ms. Paula Glossip. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. BOARD ROOM RENOVATION PROJECT—INTRODUCTION OF CONTRIBUTING STAFF

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, welcomed the Park Board members to their newly renovated Board Room. Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director, and Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services, introduced the staff who assisted with the transformation of the space. We are fortunate to have many talented staff with carpentry, painting, and electrical skills to update the Board Room so that it is more reflective of the quality park system that we manage. The Board Members and staff present participated in a ceremonial ribbon-cutting to kick off the first Board Meeting in the newly renovated space.

III. CITY OF SPRINGFIELD GENERAL FUND INTERNAL SERVICES PRESENTATION

Mr. Belote introduced Mr. Greg Burris, City Manager, and Ms. Mary Mannix-Decker, Finance Director, and explained that the Board had previously invited them to present more information regarding the philosophy and history of the Cost Allocation Plan. The Cost Allocation Plan determines the cost of providing services to City departments, Boards, and Enterprise Funds, who are not funded by the general fund, but use general fund support services, such as human resources, information technology, purchasing, and accounting departmental services. According to the City, this plan began in 2009 as the general fund budget was stressed and compromising the ability to deliver core governmental services. The City enlisted the services of KPMG who prepared a “fully burdened” study, which included direct cost, support services,

indirect cost, and allocation of overhead in providing services to non-general fund departments. Currently, the cost allocation assessed for the Parks Department is to repay the City \$680,772 for services. Ms. Mannix-Decker stated that the City is recouping 3 million dollars by using the Cost Allocation Plan. Ms. Mannix-Decker indicated that the determined costs are fixed for now, but it will be necessary to review them sometime in the future and update the study. Mr. John Price, Park Board Chair, expressed concern that we are utilizing dedicated Parks Sales Tax proceeds to fund other City General Fund needs and priorities. Mr. Burris commented that other dedicated tax collected funds from the Art Museum, Public Works, and 911 Emergency departments are also being utilized to pay for City services provided to them. He also stated that the money collected from the other non-general fund departments is helping the general fund remain afloat to provide essential services. Mr. Price questioned whether or not the value of providing the wellness program for City employees at a reduced rate was considered as a financial credit for services the Parks Department provides to the City. Ms. Mannix-Decker stated it was not included as a deduction at this time, but rather as a Park Board sponsored activity.

Mr. Belote stated that we did receive some pressure from City Council to become financially sustainable five to six years ago due to the shortfall of the General Fund and the many competing pressures it had placed upon it. We have been commended for achieving this financial goal and still completing our Parks Sales Tax projects as promised to voters. With no additional revenue sources, however, during this current budget cycle, we administered a 5 percent budget cut to our operational accounts in order to achieve a balanced budget. Mr. Belote stated that it is very rare for a Parks Department to receive no general fund support from their respective governing entities.

Mr. Burris stated that he appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Park Board and noted that both the City's and Park Board's budgets appeared stressed. Everyone was in agreement that the Parks Department should provide updates to City Council on a more frequent basis in the future.

V. HORTON SMITH GOLF COURSE/SHERWOOD SCHOOL STORMWATER AGREEMENT

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director, discussed a proposed stormwater license agreement with Springfield Public Schools regarding Sherwood Elementary School, which is located on the south side of Horton Smith Golf Course. Currently during heavy rain events, surface water flows across the golf course onto the site where the new school is to be constructed. With the installation of a concrete box culvert, the water will be diverted away from the proposed school site. The license agreement with Springfield Public Schools is required to permit work to be performed on our property to construct the box culvert inlet. A stormwater engineer has reviewed a number of studies to minimize the impeding flow of water onto the course. With minimal impact to the golf course, Park Board staff recommends the approval of the agreement. Mr. Tim Shryack made the motion to approve the stormwater agreement with Springfield Public Schools at the Horton Smith Golf Course, and authorize Ms. Lana Woolsey to make minor adjustments in language as necessary on behalf of the Board; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion approved unanimously. Mr. Belote stated that we have a good relationship with Springfield Public Schools, along with the Boys and Girls Club, which will be part of the school's new development at that site.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Nominating Committee—2014-2015 Officers Election Slate

Ms. Paula Glossip, Chair of the Nominating Committee, stated that the Committee recommended Mr. Tim Shryack for Chair, and Dr. Sarah McCallister for Vice Chair. Hearing no other nominations for the offices, the nominations were closed. The Board approved the election slate unanimously by a voice vote. The new Chair and Vice Chair will begin their positions effective July 1.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Belote stated that in the essence of time today, only the Assistant Directors will do a verbal report.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park stated that the Botanical Center continues to offer a wide variety of activities for the public to enjoy including the Young Sprouts Gardens camp, which was well attended. In May, the staff at Nathanael-Greene/Close Memorial Park hosted eight weddings. The construction for the Route 66 Roadside Park has started, which includes a driveway through the park site. The group working to raise funds to move Timmons Temple is continuing their capital campaign since the developer granted them a second 30-day extension. If successful, their group will still need to make a formal proposal to the Board once they have obtained the funding for the move and relocation of the church. The litter collection total for the month of May was 70,260 pounds.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker reported that the Dickerson Park Zoo hosted their annual "Dream Night" with over 1200 attendees. It is the most favorite event of many of the Zoo staff. The Zoo's annual "Ball of the Wild" event will be coming up on Friday, July 11.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser reported that staff currently is working to reschedule over 850 league games that have been cancelled due to weather conditions. With all the rain, pool attendance has been a little lower. On Friday, June 20th, in cooperation with the YMCA, we are hosting the largest swim lesson at Fassnight Park Pool and the Pat Jones Y. There will be other cities around the country hosting a swim lesson at the same time using the same curriculum as together the sites try to make it into the Guinness Book of World Records.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote thanked the many Park Board members who attended the Westport Park and Pavilion dedication on May 28. It was a special day in the park in which we were fortunate to dedicate two playgrounds. The Betty and Bobby Allison Playground was dedicated near the school, and the playground in the park was dedicated in honor of Hailey Owens, a former Westport elementary student who was tragically slain earlier this year. In cooperation with Springfield Public Schools, Bobby Allison, and Gametime, we were able to provide two new playground sites and restore the pavilion in the park as well. With fun games, activities, and the opening of the Westport pool for the day, it was a great time for all the students and their families who attended.

Mr. Belote stated that Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation, is now a recent graduate of Leadership Springfield. Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Park Manager, was elected as incoming President of Leadership Springfield.

The Springfield Lasers first home-opener is Sunday, July 6. Two of our Lasers players, Jean-Julien Rojer and Anna-Lena Groenefeld, recently won the French Open. Snowfest is on Saturday, June 14 in Jordan Valley Park. On Father's Day, Dads can play for free at the Betty Allison @ Oscar Blom course.

Mr. Belote stated that City Council's Community Involvement Committee recently reviewed a presentation by the Missouri Department of Conservation regarding the urban deer population in Springfield. Some of the locations for the annual managed deer hunt are on City Utilities owned property. Lake Springfield Park, which is operated by the Park Board, but owned by City Utilities, came into question during that discussion with the Council Committee. In previous years, we have opted out of participating in a managed deer hunt at Lake Springfield Park. At this time, Mr. Belote suggested we adopt a similar stance and have staff investigate the impact a managed hunt would have on the park, patrons, and park rentals over the next year. This would provide our staff and Board with better information on both the benefits and challenges a managed hunt would place upon the park. The Board concurred with this position and Mr. Belote will report back to the Council Committee.

VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Price complimented the staff who completed the behind-the-scenes activities before the Westport Playgound and Pavilion dedication took place such as strategically placing straw and plywood sheets to be used as temporary walkways over muddy ground. This dedication showcased the school-park concept with the pool and playground next to the school building, and the cooperation of many to make it a great site for families to enjoy.

Mr. Price mentioned the collaborative event with Sister Cities and Friends of the Garden on Saturday, July 12 at the Botanical Center in conjunction with the Butterfly Festival. A mariachi band from Isesaki will be one of the featured performers for a concert in the park. The mariachi band will also make a guest appearance at the Dickerson Park Zoo.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

X. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

XI. CALENDAR

The next regularly scheduled Park Board meeting will be Friday, July 11, 2014, at 8:30 a.m., at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion to adjourn to Closed Session; seconded by Mr. Tim Shryack. Motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.