

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

Friday, July 11, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

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

I. ROLL CALL

Tim Shryack, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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

Members Absent: None

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

Guests: Sidney Needem, Park Day Reunion Committee

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. John Price made the motion to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2014, Park Board Meeting, and the June 13, 2014, Closed Park Board Meeting as a group and as distributed; seconded by Ms. Paula Glossip. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. INVITATION TO PARK DAY REUNION 2014

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, introduced and welcomed Mr. Sidney Needem, a member of the Park Day Reunion Committee and former Park Board member. Mr. Needem thanked the Park Board for their collaboration with the Park Day Committee. The Park Day Reunion celebration started sometime in the late 1940's or early 1950's in Silver Springs Park with just a Sunday picnic and pageant. Mr. Needem has been part of the event since 1977, and now the three-day event includes a golf tournament, bowling tournament, tennis tournament, parade, and dinner and dance, along with the Sunday community picnic and Miss Silver Springs pageant. Mr. Needem stated that individuals from across the country travel back to Springfield to attend this event. Mr. Needem invited the Board members and the Springfield community to attend any part of the festivities on August 1-3, 2014.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORT

There were no Committee Reports to discuss.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Tim Shryack, Park Board Chair, presented a plaque to Mr. John Price acknowledging him for his service as Park Board Chair for the last two years. Mr. Shryack stated that Mr. Price would

remain on the Board providing guidance and support. Mr. John Price mentioned it was a pleasure to work with the Park Board Staff, who made the responsibilities of Chair much easier. Dr. Sarah McCallister was also welcomed as the new Park Board Vice-Chair.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Park Manager Mr. Cumley stated that we recently hosted the Chamber of Commerce's Good Morning Springfield event at Mediacom Ice Park, which included the Mayor's State of the City Address. Artificial turf was placed over one sheet of ice for the meeting. In honor of Springfield Lasers season, attendees were treated to a mini-tennis lesson. The 13th Annual Snowfest event was held on June 14 in Jordan Valley Park with 40 loads of zamboni "snow" available for kids to play on. The "Fireworks at the Field" event was held at Hammons Field and Jordan Valley Park on June 28. Ice skating, bounce houses, and activities for kids were available throughout the day; followed by a Springfield Cardinals' game and fireworks that ended the day of fun for families. "Movies at Founders Park" begins on July 11 through August 30 with Family Night on Fridays and Date Night on Saturdays. Movies begin at dusk. On August 8, we will assist with the Route 66 Festival, which will include a drive-in movie shown in the lot just east of the Springfield Expo Center. The movie will be "Back to the Future". The event is free and open to the public.

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator Ms. Edwards stated it is Springfield Lasers' season! Ms. Edwards welcomed Ms. Diana Tyndall, our Marketing Coordinator, as she has just completed her first month in Parks. Ms. Edwards stated that the City of Springfield is working on the final preparations for a new website hosting service, which will also include an updated look for the Parks' website. The updated Photographer Policy will be posted soon on the Parks' website.

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation Ms. McGrath reported that the Accessible Recreation Division hosted their 21st Annual float trip on the Niangua River with 13 disabled participants and the assistance of the Ozarks Mountain Paddlers. The five-mile float trip included a box lunch and ice cream social. The Miracle Field leagues finally completed their spring season, which was delayed due to inclement weather. Nearly 300 league games are still being rescheduled because of the rainy spring season. Day camps remain full with 790 children attending each week. Ms. McGrath stated we will host 150 Mercy employees and their families at the Springfield Lasers match featuring James Blake versus Andy Roddick on July 13. Cooper Tennis Complex will host play days before the Springfield Lasers matches which includes tennis play and a variety of entertainers on the show wagon.

Mr. Tom Moore, Superintendent of Special Facilities Mr. Moore reported that summer camps remain full at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park and Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center. The crops are doing well despite the large amounts of rain received this season. Lake Springfield Park staff conducted a kayak demonstration for a KOLR-10 news story. Mr. Shryack mentioned that his son's wedding rehearsal dinner was held at the Lake Springfield Boathouse, which was a beautiful location for the occasion. He thanked the staff for their assistance with the event.

Mr. Belote mentioned that he appreciated the Park Ranger staff for their assistance with crowd control and security bag checks at the Springfield Lasers matches. Additionally, our Public

Information Division has been heavily involved with providing updates to the public about the player changes, game results, and preparations for special guests during the Lasers season. Our Park Operation Division has done a great job as well enhancing and maintaining the Cooper Tennis Complex courts and grounds showcasing the property.

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services Mr. Carney reported that this month's safety topic involved learning about how to respond to active shooters in public places. The presentation was conducted by Matt Coats, Park Ranger Supervisor. On June 7, the Park Operations staff assisted with "Dirt Day" in Lafayette Park. Ms. Phyllis Ferguson stated that she appreciated the staff who assisted with putting up the 20 tents and prepared the site for the dinosaur dig and buried treasure activities during the Dirt Day event. Participants also enjoyed painting 165 bird houses. "Bark in the Park" event was held at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park on June 14. During the month of June, 69,000 pounds of litter was collected, which only represented two weeks of collection because the truck was undergoing some repairs.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park reported that on June 5, the Botanical Center hosted the Lion's Club History Walk Stone Dedication. Eight guided tram tours and three guided tours of the Butterfly House, along with three weddings, took place at the Springfield Botanical Gardens and Botanical Center during the month of June. On July 12, the Butterfly Festival will combine with the Sister Cities Fiesta adding new elements for this free day event at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park. Mr. Park reported that progress is being made for the entry drive through the Route 66 Roadside Park. Discussions continue regarding the placement of the Reds Hamburg sign. A Route 66 Festival is being planned for August 8 and 9. Mr. Park stated that residents near Oak Grove Park will notice construction being done to provide some erosion control. The Timmons Temple group is still seeking funds needed for the relocation of the Church. The organizers of this initiative will make a formal announcement and provide an update of the project soon. On July 16, Springfield Public Schools will host a groundbreaking for the new Boys and Girls Club Sertoma Unit near Horton Smith Golf Course. We have enjoyed our partnerships with other Boys and Girls Clubs near Grant Beach and Smith Parks.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser reported that we will host the annual Kid'athalon, which consists of a swimming, biking, and running competition, at Meador Park on August 2. July is a busy month for recreational programs and activities throughout the Park system.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker reported that the Friends of the Zoo's largest fund-raiser, Ball of the Wild, will be July 12 at the O'Reilly Event Center. The Sister Cities' Mariachi Band from Tlaquapaque, Mexico, will make a guest appearance at the event, as well. Mr. Crocker stated that this year the Mariachi Band has made appearances at the Boys and Girls Clubs, a variety of park facilities, the Dickerson Park Zoo, and a Springfield Lasers match.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote mentioned that one of our Friends of the Garden members, George Deatz, was one of ten people who received the Gift of Time Award at a luncheon on June 24. Mr. Deatz was instrumental in the establishment of the Friends of the Garden organization and the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center. Mr. Belote stated we appreciate the volunteers and the 300-plus organizations who we work with to enhance and maintain the award-winning park system for our citizens and visitors. We will host the American

Junior Golf Association tournament featuring 100 of the top junior golfers on July 21-24 at Rivercut Golf Course. Mr. Belote stated that we are co-sponsoring the One Awards Program with KY3 and the Springfield Sports Commission on July 29. The One Awards feature the area's top high school athletes. Park Board members are welcome to attend. Mr. Belote mentioned that Billie Jean King attended the Springfield Lasers match against Ms. King's team, the Philadelphia Freedoms, on July 6. Ms. King held a question and answer session with the media and guests in the VIP Lounge before the match.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

IX. CALENDAR

The next Park Board meeting will be held on Friday, August 8, 2014, at 8:30 am, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

X. CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion to adjourn to Closed Session; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 am.