

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, November 14, 2014
Park Board Administrative Offices, 1923 N. Weller
Springfield, Missouri**

I. ROLL CALL

Tim Shyrack, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

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

Members Absent: Mike Mellinger

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

Guests: Friends of Timmons Temple: David Essick, Ralph Plank, Denny Whayne, Dusty Emmert, Reverend TJ Appleby, Lori Tack, Betty Ransin, Paula Ringer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. John Price made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2014, Park Board meeting, and the October 10, 2014, Closed Park Board Meeting, as distributed; seconded by Ms. Paula Glossip. Motion passed unanimously.

III. CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF SPRINGFIELD LASERS FRANCHISE – SENATOR ROY BLUNT’S OFFICE

The representative from Senator Blunt’s office was detained and unable to make the meeting. He will be invited to attend the December Park Board Meeting. Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, introduced Mr. Paul Nahon, the Springfield Lasers General Manager. Mr. Belote stated that Mr. Nahon handled the challenges of having 12-14 Lasers players during the season which normally requires just four players. Mr. Nahon said it was a great season and an honor to host our first World TeamTennis final championship match in Springfield. Our community is fortunate to have a WTT team as we are one of only seven franchises across the country. Paul is working on new sponsorships and preparing for next year’s season.

IV. TIMMONS TEMPLE INITIATIVE FORMAL REQUEST TO THE BOARD

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director, provided a brief overview of the Friends of Timmons Temple proposal that was provided to the Board for their review. Mr. Park welcomed several guests representing the group who wished to speak in support of the proposal. Several individuals addressed the Board, including David Essick, Dusty Emmert, with Larry Snyder Company, the developer of the property where Timmons Temple currently resides, Denny Whayne, and Reverend

TJ Appleby, the last pastor of Timmons Temple when it was still an operational church. All speakers expressed their gratitude to the Board for reviewing the proposal and to the Administrative Staff for their guidance in the preparation of the proposal. Mr. Belote thanked the speakers and asked if the Board had any further questions for the Friends of Timmons Temple (FTT) supporters who were present. Mr. Belote also stated that he appreciated the FTT's hard work to preserve the Temple, including a funding plan for the cost of the move and the infill cost, because the Board does not have the ability to facilitate any new projects due to financial constraints. Hearing no additional questions or further discussion, Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion that the Park Board accepts the proposal for the relocation of the Timmons Temple into Silver Springs Park and welcomes it into the Park Board system; seconded by Ms. Phyllis Ferguson. Motion was approved unanimously, and applause broke out amongst the supporters and the Board members. Mr. Price stated that he appreciated the efforts of the supporters who put their heart and money into the project, and he is confident that they will continue to see the project through completion.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Belote stated that we are reviewing candidate applications and preparing to schedule interviews. Our Board member who is stepping down has agreed to remain on the Board until a replacement has been selected.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Manager Mr. Cumley reported that the Jordan Valley Park fountains have been turned off for the season, the mowing of the grounds has stopped, and staff is now preparing for the Festival of Lights with the decorating of Jordan Valley Park. The lighting of the Mayor's Christmas tree, and the kickoff to the Festival of Lights celebration is November 22 at 5:00 pm at Jordan Valley Park. Hammons Field will shoot off fireworks and provide hot chocolate for the event. At the Mediacom Ice Park annual "Pink the Ice" event, the MSU Ice Bears and the 417 Express Junior A Team raised over \$11,000 in support of the Breast Cancer of the Ozarks organization. Dr. Sarah McCallister attended the event and commented what a great event it was, and the staff did an excellent job.

Mr. Tom Moore, Superintendent of Special Facilities Mr. Moore stated that the Fall Fest event at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park recorded its largest attendance for the event to date. Mr. David Riggs, who worked as the safety representative and coordinator at Lake Springfield Park, recently retired. We wish David the best in retirement, and he will be missed. Staff recently completed a glade restoration project to help keep down the urban deer population. The Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center has been keeping busy with riding lessons and birthday party rentals. Staff has baled hay at Lost Hill Park, which is being used for the horses at the Equestrian Center. Staff is preparing the Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park with over 50,000 lights for Candy Cane Lane, a lighted drive-thru. Mr. Belote thanked the Special Facilities staff for hosting the 3rd Annual Employee Picnic at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park.

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services Mr. Carney reported that staff is completing their assignments to winterize outside water fountains and bathrooms during the current good weather conditions. Recently, we hosted three Missouri State High School Athletic Association championships within one week. Staff did a great job. We also coordinated the delivery and set up of seven portable bleacher units and the show wagon during one of the

championship weekends when Springfield Public Schools needed them for a large athletic event the same weekend.

Mr. Belote mentioned that Diana Tyndall, our Marketing Coordinator, has been busy working with the MPRA Conference Committee in securing sponsorships for portions of the conference activities.

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation Ms. McGrath reported that the Cooper Tennis Complex hosted the USTA Open District tournament for 16-18 year olds, which included the top 20 players. Through our community tennis program, we also serve as the home courts for the MSU Women's Tennis Team, Evangel Tennis Team, and the Drury Tennis Team, along with Glendale, Parkview, Central, Kickapoo High Schools Tennis Teams, who use a combination of our courts. Last month, we hosted the MSHSAA tennis championships with over 1000 players and spectators, among other notable events and workshops. On Veteran's Day, Northview hosted a luncheon, honoring the 23 veterans who attended. Northview staff is working with the seniors to fulfill their requests for new day trips and activities. Staff is working on final preparations for the annual 20th Turkey Trot. This community event also serves as the largest single day collection of food for the Ozarks Food Harvest. Through the years, we have collected over 60,000 pounds of food, which has provided 50,000 meals. We also appreciate our sponsors, Regal and Great Southern, who have been with us since the very first Turkey Trot.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park mentioned that the Botanical Center recently celebrated their fourth anniversary. Mr. Park stated that as part of the Friends of Timmons Temple organization, they have applied for 501-C-3 status.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser is serving as the Program Chair of the MPRA Conference and is working with her committee to review the 100 submitted proposals for the 70 time slots available. Ms. Reser stated that the Program Committee is working with MPRA to offer CEU's for the sessions and provide educational and interesting topics for the 300-400 attendees.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker reported that the 31st annual Spooktacular event had 21,200 visitors. He was pleased with the attendance numbers given that there are so many options in the community this time of year. The Dickerson Park Zoo will receive some Mexican wolves after recently meeting the specific requirements for the animals.

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator Ms. Edwards and Ms. Tyndall have been working with the media advertising the 20th annual Turkey Trot taking place on Thanksgiving morning.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote shared several thank you letters received from citizens, along with one from the MSHSAA organizers, expressing their appreciation for hosting state championships. Mr. Belote mentioned one of our park supporters, Ms. Helen White, who we worked with in the purchase of the David C. Murray trailhead, wrote a book, "Butterfield Overland Mail Route" on the Butterfield Stage and their cross-country trip. Several park sites are mentioned in the book, which she recently presented to the Park Board. Ms. White is a historian, particularly of the areas in northern Springfield.

Mr. Belote mentioned that we recently held a department-wide staff meeting to review the latest developments in parks. We also celebrated the milestones of several employees. We will host a

holiday luncheon on December 12 at Northview. Mr. Belote stated that our employees pledged over \$10,000 in the City of Springfield's United Way Campaign. This is the second year in a row that park employees have reached the \$10,000 mark.

As a reminder, staff is currently reviewing fees and charges and budget items for the 2015-2016 budget year. The Board will meet in December to review the proposed fees and charges, and then, again in January in a separate workshop to review the proposed budget for 2015-2016.

The annual PGA Golf Sale is December 4-6 at 1440 W. Republic Road, near Big Whiskey's. Our three golf courses and six other golf courses will participate in the sale offering a variety of items.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Shryack stated that he was pleased with the progress the Friends of Timmons Temple made to achieve their goal to raise money to move and provide necessary infill requirements to relocate the facility in Silver Springs Park. Thanks to everyone who was involved in the process.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Shryack reviewed the list of employees who recently were recognized for their employment milestones, and he congratulated Jeff Cumley and Jerry Mitchell for their 10-year anniversary.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

X. CALENDAR

The next scheduled Park Board meeting is Friday, December 12, 2014, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

Mr. John Price made the motion to adjourn the meeting to Closed Session; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 9:41 a.m.