

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, January 9, 2015
Park Board Administrative Offices, 1923 N. Weller
Springfield, Missouri

I. ROLL CALL

Tim Shyrack, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Members Present: Phyllis Ferguson, Paula Glossip, Kevin Hogan, Sarah McCallister, Mike Mellinger, John Price, Tim Shyrack, Chair.

Members Absent: Scott Bailes, Matt Bailey

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

Guests: Tim Smith, Deputy City Manager
Developmental Center of the Ozarks: Alan McKelvy, Marisa DeClue, Robin Helsel. Ozark Mountain Ridge Runners: Gene Molner, Monte Montgomery
Ozarks Food Harvest: Denise Gibson, Jolene Thompson, Christy Claybaker

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. John Price made the motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2014, Park Board Meeting, and the December 15, 2014, Fees and Charges Work Session Meeting as distributed; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion passed unanimously.

III. TURKEY TROT CHECK PRESENTATION AND SPECIAL 20TH ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath recognized our partners who have been a part of the Turkey Trot tradition from the beginning. Gene Molner and Monte Montgomery with Ozark Mountain Ridge Runners came up with the idea of a 5K community race to raise money for Developmental Center of the Ozarks 20 years ago. The first Turkey Trot race event had just 142 participants. Throughout the years, the number of participants and partners grew. In 2012, we recorded our largest number of participants with over 9,007 people who ran, walked with friends or family, with a stroller, or with a dog. The Developmental Center of the Ozarks has been a partner for 20 years helping to secure sponsors and volunteers for the event. DCO receives 50 percent of the proceeds each year, which helps children who qualify to receive therapy and other services offered through DCO programs at no cost to their family. Since 2001, Ozarks Food Harvest (OFH) has been a partner of the event helping provide non-perishable food collection bins on site and picking up the donated food items. This year, we collected over 7,000 pounds of non-perishable food items for Ozarks Food Harvest. The Turkey Trot event is the largest single-day collection for OFH. Throughout the

years, we have collected over 60,000 pounds of food through the Turkey Trot event, providing over 6,000 meals to families. The Park Board greatly benefits from the Turkey Trot event as well, and we use the 50 percent of the proceeds that we receive to award scholarships for youth who qualify to participate in programs and activities offered by the Park Board. Over the last 10 years, we have awarded 7,700 scholarships.

Ms. McGrath also thanked all of the staff who has assisted with this event throughout the years, including Dan Kinney and Jodie Adams, who were instrumental in the early years about making this a successful community event. We also appreciate the assistance of the City of Springfield's Police and Fire Departments, who are a part of the committee, and also assist with a variety of race day activities. Additionally, Ms. McGrath shared her appreciation to the 25 person committee, who meets nearly every month planning for the next Turkey Trot. Mr. Molner and Mr. Montgomery, along with representatives from DCO and OFH, received a uniquely designed framed poster of the past 20 years of Turkey Trot t-shirts, thanking them for their support. Ms. McGrath presented DCO with a check for \$29,757.05, representing 50 percent of the proceeds from the 2014 Turkey Trot 20th anniversary event. Ms. DeClue mentioned that DCO is celebrating 60 years in the Ozarks, and with their new campus, they are prepared to continue providing programs to children.

IV. CITY UTILITIES AGREEMENT FOR CHESTERFIELD PARK AND LEASE EXTENSIONS FOR PARKS

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, mentioned that we have three parks on City Utilities' property: Lake Springfield Park, Valley Water Mill Park, and Dan Kinney Park and Family Center. We operate and maintain these parks on CU property free of charge. Last year, we honored City Utilities with a Citation Award at our Missouri Parks and Recreation Association Annual Conference recognizing our partnership throughout the years. We have been working with City Utilities to identify a possible park site that would help address the water needs and serve the anticipated long-term growth of the southwest portion of our community. Chesterfield Park and other park properties, along with additional public and private properties, were reviewed. City Utilities also conducted community forums to gain the public's input about potential sites, including a public forum at Chesterfield Family Center. No negative feedback was received concerning constructing an elevated water tank within Chesterfield Park.

With the help of Dennis McMan, our Senior Park Planner, and Miles Park, Assistant Director, we were able to develop a site plan that was agreeable to both CU and the Park Board staff. Mr. Park presented the Chesterfield Park Master Plan identifying proposed amenities that we hope to develop over time and the proposed elevation site for the CU water tank. The new water tank would not adversely affect the Master Plan or future development at Chesterfield Park. Mr. Park also discussed the permanent and temporary easements that would provide sufficient space to work during the construction of the elevated water tank. Ms. Lana Woolsey, Assistant City Attorney, mentioned that proposed agreement with CU also indicates that CU would provide up to \$25,000 in park developments at Chesterfield Park, landscaping and plantings at the water tank site, and a beautification project on the tower. The agreement indicates the term for the elevated water tank would be for 50 years, plus an additional 50 years provision.

The second part of the resolution with City Utilities was to extend the current terms of the leases at Lake Springfield Park, Valley Water Mill Park and Dan Kinney Park and Family Center from 25 years to 50 years, and additional 50 year rollover provision. The City Utilities Board approved the agreement at their December meeting. Park Board staff recommends reciprocating by helping out another government entity and request that the Park Board approve the CU agreement as provided for their review. Construction for the new water tower would not begin until 2019. Mr. John Price made the motion to adopt the resolution as presented and to extend the lease agreements from 25 to 50 years on the properties listed; seconded by Dr. Sarah McCallister. Motion passed unanimously. A joint resolution will be submitted to City Council on January 26 for approval.

V. RECOMMENDED BY FY 2015-16 DEPARTMENTAL FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE

Mr. Belote stated staff met with the Park Board and discussed the proposed FY 2015-16 Fees and Charges Schedule at a Work Session that was held December 15, 2014. We added a column to the fee schedule to better show the proposed fee within the range. Although raising a fee within a previously adopted range many not require additional Board approval, staff felt this provides better information to the Board and anyone reviewing the Fee and Charges Schedule. Mr. Belote stated that with the adoption of the FY 2015-16 Fees and Charges Schedule, we will notify our patrons and begin the transition of any revised fees effective March 1 as appropriate. Dr. Sarah McCallister made the motion to accept the proposed FY 2015-16 Departmental Fees and Charges Schedule as presented; seconded by Mr. Mike Mellinger. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tim Shryack, Chair, stated that he appreciated the staff's effort to make the document easy to understand.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Belote mentioned that the Nominating Committee plans to set up interviews with prospective Park Board applicants soon.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Mr. Jeff Cumley, Jordan Valley Park Manager Mr. Cumley stated that the 25th anniversary of First Night was held New Year's Eve. Mediacom Ice Park welcomed 720 skaters during the evening. Mr. Cumley mentioned that the MSU Ice Bears will play against Mizzou Tigers on January 23. Mr. Belote mentioned that he would like for us to host a social for the Park Board members at an upcoming hockey game if possible.

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation Ms. McGrath mentioned that the Sewing and Crochet Club at the Northview Center has donated 1,300 handmade hats and scarves to the Ronald McDonald House, St. Jude, and Great Circle organizations. At Northview's recent volunteer recognition event, we honored 76 volunteers with guest speaker, Tom Krause, a 20-time contributing author to the Chicken Soup for the Soul book series. Ms. McGrath stated that we recently promoted Mr. Mark Nelson to Community Recreation Coordinator. Also, Ms. Amanda Becker was promoted to Community Recreation Coordinator at the Skatepark facility. We congratulate each of them on their new positions. Mr. Belote mentioned that the Skatepark Association President has been very

complimentary of the recent staff changes, the full-service and well-stocked pro shop, and the number of returning skateboarders using the facility. We look forward to hosting a Board meeting at the Skatepark in the future.

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator

Ms. Edwards

mentioned that the latest Park Bench publication was distributed for their review. Ms. Edwards is working with Diana Tyndall, Marketing Coordinator, on marketing campaigns for family centers, birthday parties, and new programs. The Community Olympic Development Program was recently featured in a News-Leader article. Ms. Edwards also shared our Social Networking Year-End Summary regarding Facebook "Likes" and Twitter sharing. All Park Board Facebook pages have seen an increase in "Likes" over the past year.

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services

Mr. Carney indicated that

December was a heavy project month with maintenance and repair activities occurring at facilities both inside and outside. At the Meador Softball Complex, staff installed new siding on the round house where the restrooms and concessions areas are located. Staff also installed new fencing around the backstops. We completed the fencing project at the Mizumoto Stroll Garden at Nathanael-Greene/Close Memorial Park. The litter total for December was 32,000 pounds.

Mr. Tom Moore, Superintendent of Special Facilities

Mr. Moore reported that

1,710 vehicles drove through the lighted "Candy Lane" drive at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park compared to the 276 vehicles last year. Lake Springfield Park staff is conducting maintenance projects this time of year. Valley Water Mill Park hosted several holiday and birthday parties last month.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director

Ms. Reser stated that she has been working with

Human Resources and our staff in preparation for the hiring season of part-time and seasonal staff. Additionally, she is working to fill full-time positions due to recent internal staff promotions. All divisions are also submitting event information for the department's yearly calendar. Once it is finalized, it will be distributed. Mr. Belote mentioned that Ms. Reser has also been involved with our state conference preparations specifically the 70-plus educational program sessions and obtaining CEU approval for the sessions. We will offer 10 on-site tours throughout the four days of the conference, with two social events for the MPRA conference participants.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director

Mr. Park commended the Springfield Fire

Department for responding quickly to a neighbor's phone call about a fire in one of the maintenance buildings. The building incurred smoke damage and loss of equipment. Staff is working on making repairs and replacing equipment. Staff conducted 45 safety inspections as part of our normal inspection rotation process. Mr. Park stated that the resolution support for an OTO grant that the Board recently approved, for funds to construct additional trail near South Dry Sac, was successful. The Greene County Highway department, who helped to meet the local match funds, will construct the right-of-way. Mr. Park reported that preliminary work for the Timmons Temple Church structure move to Silver Springs Park is progressing, but it is still several weeks away from completion. The Friends of Timmons Temple group has volunteers cataloging the stones from the porch so it

can be assembled appropriately. Mr. Park stated that Butler and Rosenbury Architects was awarded the AIA Merit Award of Excellence by the AIA Springfield Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for their work in designing the Jordan Valley Maintenance Facility. Mr. Belote thanked Miles Park and Jeff Cumley for working with Butler and Rosenbury to best utilize the location and space for many different functions and activities. A Board member suggested hosting a Park Board meeting at this location in the future.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote stated that as part of the annual budget review workshop, we will be scheduling a Work Session with the Board the first week of February. Mr. Belote mentioned that he recently met with the Greene County Commissioners, including the new Presiding Commissioner, regarding our budget. It is a unique timing of the meeting in that we are in the middle of our current budget year, and we are planning next year's budget. The City of Springfield operates on a July-June fiscal cycle, but the County operates on a January-December fiscal cycle. Mr. Belote discussed with the Commissioners where we spend our budget dollars, including maintenance and operations funds from the 2001 and 2006 parks sales tax initiatives, but with no capital funding plan, nor the ability to acquire additional land for parks. We will also meet with the City Manager's Office in February for a similar discussion and to review our recommendations for the 2015-16 budget year.

Mr. Belote stated that the Joint City/County Task Force continue to meet to discuss ways to work together to solve some of the major issues in the community. One of the challenges is to meet the city/county stormwater mandates. Through our partnership with Public Works and the passage of the parks sales tax in 2006, we were able to address some of the stormwater mandates. Mr. Belote remains hopeful that we can collaborate again to provide multiple benefits to the community similar to the park and stormwater improvements we completed at Fassnight, Doling, and Sequiota Parks. The improvements in these areas are aesthetically pleasing, preserved historic value and appearance, and have a recreational component when not serving to control flooding during severe weather. There will be a Council Luncheon Presentation on February 3 and Board members are welcome to attend.

Mr. Belote mentioned that we recently began advertising for an assistant director position, which would replace his former position when he was promoted to the Director nearly three years ago. This assistant director would oversee budget, personnel, security and other operational duties. Filling this position will allow Mr. Belote more time to meet with community partners, clubs and organization, continue with the current plans, and focus on a major donor and related capital funding plan.

Mr. Belote mentioned that the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame will induct the 2015 class on Sunday, January 25. The class of inductees includes Ned Reynolds, Coach Keith Guttin, Chris Carpenter, and a special recognition for Gracie Gold. Several of this year's inductees are Park Board partners, so we look forward to supporting them at the banquet. Park Board members are welcome to attend if their schedule allows.

VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Tim Shryack, Chair, stated that he enjoyed the Turkey Trot check presentation and the historical facts about the event. It has grown to be a significant community event that is great for families. He also wanted to thank the citizens who have participated or volunteered for the event as they have been a part of the success, dollars raised and the food collected for our community partners.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

X. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

XI. CALENDAR

There will be a Budget Workshop scheduled in early February as schedules will allow. The next monthly Park Board meeting will be Friday, February 13, 2015, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

XII. ADJOURMENT

Ms. Paula Glossip made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. John Price. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.