

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, January 20, 2017*
Park Board Administrative Offices
1923 N. Weller, Springfield, Missouri

I. ROLL CALL

**Note: The meeting was rescheduled to January 20, 2017, due to inclement weather on January 13, 2017.*

Dr. Sarah McCallister, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

Members Present: Matt Bailey, Dee King, Dr. Sarah McCallister, Sidney Needem, Michele Risdal-Barnes

Members Absent: Scott Bailes, Carolyn Gerdes, Bob Horton, John Price

Park Board Staff Present: Bob Belote, Matt Coats, Mike Crocker, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Karen Herron, Anne-Mary McGrath, Jerry Mitchell, Miles Park, Kim Reser, Lana Woolsey

Guests: Robin Helsel, Developmental Center of the Ozarks; Jenna Brown and Jo Thompson, Ozarks Food Harvest; Paula Ringer, Lori Tack, and Ralph Plank, Friends of Timmons Temple.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Michele Risdal-Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2016, Park Board Meeting, as submitted; seconded by Mr. Sidney Needem. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. TURKEY TROT EVENT RECAP AND CHECK PRESENTATION

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation, provided an in-depth statistical report on the 22nd Annual Turkey Trot event. We had over 6,800 participants pre-registered. On Wednesday and Thursday morning just before the Thanksgiving Day race, we registered 1,570 participants onsite, making this the second largest Turkey Trot event with 8,378 registered participants. We had runners and walkers from 37 states, including Hawaii and Alaska, and our pet division had 772 participants. Ms. McGrath stated that the successful event is made possible with the help of many sponsors such as Brad Bradshaw Law Offices, News-Leader, McDonald's, KY3, KGBX, O'Reilly Automotive, Chipotle, Panera Bread, Hiland Dairy, and Starbucks. Additionally, we work closely with City Police, Fire, Public Works, Emergency Management, and Public Information staff. We also had Park Board staff assist from all of our divisions.

Ms. Jenna Brown, Ozarks Food Harvest, stated that we collected 7,693 pounds of food at the Turkey Trot event, which is the largest single day collection each year. Since 2001, we have collected 85,500 pounds of food, which equates to the distribution of 7,125 meals in our community. Ms. Robin Hales, Developmental Center of the Ozarks (DCO), accepted the check in

the amount of \$32,258.94, which represents half of the proceeds going to DCO to provide funding for youth and adult programs. The other half of the proceeds is placed in the Park Board's Youth Scholarship Fund. Last year, 350 youth scholarships were awarded for participation in various Park Board programs and activities.

IV. TIMMONS TEMPLE PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director, has been closely working with the Friends of Timmons Temple group, to oversee the various renovation projects that have already been completed. Ms. Lori Tack mentioned that the group is now registered as a non-profit organization and distributed a fund-raising flyer outlining the cost of the projects that still need to be finished. Ms. Paula Ringer stated her appreciation to the Park Board and other groups such as Greenway Studios, the City of Springfield, and the News-Leader, along with Jeff Wells, architect, and the various labor union trade groups, who have volunteered their time to complete several of the necessary restoration projects. Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, stated that discussions will take place soon about possible programming ideas. Although the facility will be a great amenity for Park Days activities and various rental groups, with limited resources available for new programming, fund-raising activities need to continue to assist with the future operation of the facility.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Mr. Matt Coats, Superintendent of Special Facilities Mr. Coats stated that Candy Cane Lane at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park had over 2600 cars drive through the holiday lights display over three weekends. The Farm Park recently welcomed two litters of piglets. Registration for summer programs at the Farm Park is open and available online. Online registration for urban plot registrations is also available. The Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center had 37 participants in the Academy Horse Show, which included a written and riding testing component. At Lake Springfield Boathouse, we are expecting over 500 children from Springfield Public Schools to come visit during Eagle Days.

Mr. Jerry Mitchell, Superintendent of Business Operations Mr. Mitchell stated that the auditing firm of RSM issued their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2016, and we met all budgetary and grant compliance requirements. We ended FY16 with a positive cash balance in all of our funds. Sales tax revenue for January is up from the same period last year. Golf revenues in the Golf Patron Plan are up year-to-date.

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator Ms. Edwards stated that she has been working with the City of Springfield PIO's office on the new Neighborhood News newsletter, which highlights neighborhood park news and events. It will be mailed to Zone 1 neighborhoods and made available in Parks' facilities and other venues. Ms. Edwards reported that Ms. Diana Tyndall, Marketing Coordinator, recently launched the "Bring a Bestie or a Buddy" promotion for our family centers. The current member and the new member both will receive one free month or a \$50 Park Board gift card. We have a new ad in the 2017 Springfield

Visitor's Guide, which the cover features a picture from the Dickerson Park Zoo, along with several mentions throughout the magazine about Park events and activities.

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation Ms. McGrath mentioned that the Doling and Dan Kinney Family Centers held two Parents' Night Out events in December, which were holiday-themed. Children were treated to games, crafts, inflatables, snacks and movies, while parents enjoyed an evening out. Oak Grove Community Center offers youth activities when Springfield Public Schools are closed for a snow day. The activity filled day is open for youth ages 5-12, from 7 am to 6 pm. Our Missouri Park and Recreation Association Conference will be held in Branson on March 7-10. We had several Park Board staff selected to provide presentations in their areas of knowledge and expertise for other park professionals. There are several onsite tours featuring hospitality, interactive sports, trails, ballfields, and cave tours. The Daddy/Daughter dance theme this year is Cowboys and Wildflowers and will be held at Doling Family Center on February 25. Young girls can attend this event with their favorite guy and enjoy a catered meal, dancing, pictures, and a craft activity.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director On behalf of Jon Carney, Mr. Park stated that staff has been working on rebuilding the Fassnight pool filtration system, which includes simplifying the plumbing structure. Mr. Park mentioned that the Railroad History Museum's Frisco Depot is near completion. It will provide additional display space, storage, and a place for the volunteers to accept and assemble donated items for exhibits. The new depot should be ready to go when the Museum's season opens in May. Mr. Belote suggested having an upcoming Park Board meeting at Grant Beach Park, including a tour of the Museum.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker reported that the new boardwalk is almost finished and will help increase pedestrian circulation at the Zoo. Zoo staff is working on a number of improvements at both entrances to the boardwalk.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser reported that the Neighborhood Council meets quarterly to discuss recent neighborhood improvements completed and other items relative to the community. The next meeting is February 8, with additional meetings scheduled for May 10, August 9, and November 8.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote reviewed a situation that occurred at Chesterfield Pool last weekend. A Chesterfield Pool patron had been exposed to cryptosporidium, which is a microscopic parasite that can travel through water. After discussions with appropriate staff and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, we decided to close the pool facility to begin hyper-chlorinating the pool and followed proper health protocols. We kept patrons informed and any weekend events scheduled at the facility were relocated to other Park Board facilities, as needed. Although it is unlikely we had a problem due to our regular chlorination levels, we applaud our Recreation and Park Operations staff for their prompt action in dealing with the situation. The pool was reopened on Tuesday, and we appreciate our patrons for their patience.

Mr. Belote mentioned that we will be scheduling the Fees and Charges/Budget Workshop during the week of February 6 since several Board members had conflicts for the week of January 30. It is our intention to have the FY 2017-2018 budget discussed and prospectively adopted by the Board at the February 10th meeting, and forwarded to the City Manager's Office on February 17.

In the recent Missouri Park and Recreation Association (MPRA) magazine, there is information about the upcoming state conference in Branson. On Thursday evening, March 9, the MPRA Awards Ceremony and Banquet will be held. Ozark Greenways will be a recipient of the MPRA Citation Award for their partnership with the Park Board and the important trail and greenway contributions they have made in the community for the past 25 years.

Mr. Belote stated his congratulations to the Springfield-Greene County Library District's recent renovation and grand opening of the Schweitzer Library Branch at the Brentwood location. Ms. Michele Risdal-Barnes, Park Board and Library Board Member, was instrumental in the coordination of the project. Ms. Dee King, Board Member, was also acknowledged for her recognition as one of the Springfield Business Journals' 40 under 40 professionals.

The Missouri Sports Hall of Fame will induct their latest class of recipients on Sunday, January 29. Art Haines, Melanie Stokes, and Kelby Stuckey are just a few of the local inductees. Board members are welcome to attend.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair did not have a report.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

X. CALENDAR

The next Park Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 10, 2017, at 8:30 am, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sidney Needem made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Michele Risdal-Barnes. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by 9:59 am.