MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Friday, January 12, 2018
Park Board Administrative Offices
1923 N. Weller, Springfield, Missouri

I. ROLL CALL

Dr. Sarah McCallister, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:33 am.

Members Present: Scott Bailes, Carolyn Gerdes, Bob Horton, Dr. Sarah McCallister, Sidney Needem, John Price, Michele Risdal-Barnes

Members Absent: Matt Bailey, Dee King

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

Guests: Robin Helsel, Developmental Center of the Ozarks; Jennifer Sickinger and Jo Thompson, Ozarks Food Harvest

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Sidney Needem made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2017, Park Board Meeting, and the December 8, 2017, Closed Park Board Meeting as submitted; seconded by Ms. Michele Risdal-Barnes. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. TURKEY TROT CHECK PRESENTATION AND EVENT RECAP

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation, provided an in-depth overview report on the 23rd Annual Turkey Trot event. We had over 6,773 participants pre-registered. On Wednesday and Thursday morning just before the Thanksgiving Day race, we registered 1,200 participants onsite, making this the third largest Turkey Trot event with 8,000 registered participants. We had runners and walkers from 40 states, and our pet division had 790 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, Positronics, KY3, I Heart Radio, O'Reilly Automotive, Ozarks Coca Cola Bottling Company, Corporate Business Systems, Panera Bread, Hiland Dairy, and Starbucks. Additionally, we work closely with City Police, Fire, Public Works, Emergency Management, Public Works, Information Systems, Purchasing, and Public Information staff. We also had Park Board staff assist from all of our divisions.

Ms. Jennifer Sickinger, Ozarks Food Harvest, stated that this year it was suggested that Turkey Trot participants bring five non-perishable items. The "High 5" campaign helped to provide a 27 percent increase with 10,525 pounds of food collected at the Turkey Trot event, which is the largest single day collection each year. Since 2001, we have collected food items at this event,

which equates to the distribution of 115,000 meals in our community. Ms. Robin Hales, Developmental Center of the Ozarks (DCO), presented a check in the amount of $38,368.95, 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 Recreation Scholarship Fund. Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks, thanked our partners for their assistance in hosting this annual community event.

IV. MISSOURI SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION UPDATE

Mr. Belote mentioned that the Springfield-Greene County Park Board has been selected for induction with the 2018 Class for the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. This is an unique honor for our current and past Park Board members, our parks system, and our staff. Additionally, several of our community partners who we work with such as Rick Grayson, our Contract Teaching Professional at Rivercut, Holly Hesse, MSU Softball Coach, Martin McDonald with Bass Pro, and Dan Lucy, KOLR Sports Anchor will also be part of the 2018 induction class. We have extended an invitation to past Park Board members to join us on Sunday, January 28 for the induction ceremony. Dr. Sarah McCallister, Chair, will accept the award and participate in a number of induction day activities on behalf of the Park Board.

V. COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Food and Beverage Committee: Proposal Update Mr. John Price, Chair, Food and Beverage Committee, provided a status update of the proposal that is scheduled for Public Hearing on the City Council Agenda for Tuesday, January 16. The proposal, requesting to amend the City Code to allow the Park Board to authorize alcohol to be offered at certain park locations under strict guidelines, was developed due to the numerous requests received from park patrons, partner groups, tournament directors, and sponsors. We will make an initial presentation to City Council, and there will be limited members from our partner groups who will make brief remarks regarding the proposed amendment. Mr. Price mentioned that we had already received unanimous approval from our Park Board in September 2017, and support from the Community Involvement Committee at their December 5, 2017 meeting. Mr. Belote mentioned that we have provided a copy of the proposal documents that were submitted to City Council for the Park Board members' review. He thanked the Park Board members who served on the Food and Beverage Committee, John Price, Sarah McCallister, Dee King, and Scott Bailes, along with our internal staff group, for their time in developing and moving the proposal forward.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Jeff Cumley, Superintendent of Jordan Valley Park and CODP Programs Mr. Cumley mentioned that in the month of December, 5,528 skates were rented. We welcomed over 300,000 visitors to the Mediacom Ice Park in 2017. The Holiday Ice Show was very successful with 46 ice skaters who performed to a sold-out crowd. The MSU Ice Bears season ends in February, and the 417 Express team season will continue until April.

Mr. Jerry Mitchell, Superintendent of Business Operations Mr. Mitchell reported that we received a sales tax revenue check that included revenue from several months due to a new tax reporting system at the state level. We are working to successfully close the gap between

expenditures and revenues in the Golf Fund. There were no park-oriented findings or questions regarding expenditures in the recent audit report from the City's auditing firm, and we remain in budgetary compliance for the year ended June 30, 2017.

Mr. Matt Coats, Superintendent of Special Facilities Mr. Coats mentioned that staff will partner with the Missouri Department of Conservation to host Eagle Days at Lake Springfield Park on January 20-21. We welcomed 2,536 cars at Candy Cane Lane, a drive-thru light display, at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park in December. Registration for an urban garden plot is open for spring planting at the Farm, and staff has begun planning educational programs for the summer months.

Mr. Jon Carney, Superintendent of General Services Mr. Carney reported that with December temperatures warmer than average, crews were productive completing outside maintenance projects. We installed a new swing set unit in a better location at Sequiota Park. Mr. Carney stated that we also completed the installation of an irrigation system for the area south of the Botanical Center. There was 32,000 pounds of litter collected in December.

Ms. Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator Ms. Edwards stated that she is working with the MSHOF staff to provide pictures and video for the induction ceremony. The latest publication of the Park Bench is now available in print and online. We appreciate our partnership with Springfield Public Schools, as they allow us to distribute 12,000 copies of the Park Bench to elementary students. In the last year, we have seen an increase of 15 percent in Facebook followers. Ms. Diana Tyndall, Marketing and Sponsorship Coordinator, has been working on securing new sponsorships for 2018 events. Ms. Pam Montanez, Web Designer, is working with the Golf Division to update the website with the new point-of-sale system. She also recorded a promotional video for the fitness centers, which appears on the parkboard.org website. Ms. Brittney Bywater has inserted registration links for programs advertised within the online Park Bench publication. Ms. Edwards reported that the #1 and #2 referral sources in December were done on Facebook mobile and Facebook desktop platforms.

Ms. Anne-Mary McGrath, Superintendent of Recreation Ms. McGrath mentioned that staff attended the Neighborhood Organization Volunteer Awards (NOVA) Banquet hosted by The Community Partnership of the Ozarks. The City has 15 active neighborhood associations, and it was interesting to hear about the neighborhood events and activities. Park events such as Concert in the Cave, Tennis Under the Lights, and Neighborhood Night Out were highlighted throughout each presentation, which reinforces our commitment to restore and support our neighborhood parks. Currently, the family centers have a free-week trial promotion underway, and if the participant joins before the end of January, they receive a free month of membership. Our current members also can receive a $50 Park Board gift certificate when they renew in January. On Saturday, January 13, Doling Family Center hosted a Fitness Fair, and instructors demonstrated 14 different classes in 20-minute segments. The annual Daddy Daughter Dance is scheduled for February 24. The theme this year is "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun", and tickets are available at the Family Centers beginning January 17.

Mr. Miles Park, Assistant Director Mr. Park reviewed the status of the HUD-funded projects, which have a funding completion deadline of March 31. New universal playgrounds, that are similar to the playground at Dan Kinney Park, have been ordered for Nichols, Tom

Watkins, Meador and Cooper Parks. The pre-bid conference is scheduled for the new restroom facility at Tom Watkins Park. Mr. Park also provided an update of the Neighborhood Works projects. The Fulbright Greenway Project had dirt work and stone placed at the site. The pre-bid meeting for the golf cart bridge and pathway project will be held next week.

Ms. Kim Reser, Assistant Director Ms. Reser stated that Lake Country Soccer will host the 2018 MYSA President's cup, with 90 teams competing, in April. The Business Systems Task Force is reviewing point-of-sale systems, including visiting local communities, in late January. Cruse Dog Park will celebrate its 10th anniversary in November, so staff is working with the citizen group to plan special activities.

Mr. Jim Fisher, Assistant Director Mr. Fisher stated that the golf professionals are involved with a 4-day training session this week for the new point-of-sale system. Trial runs using the software will take place soon. Ms. Tyndall and Ms. Bywater have been working to design new scorecards for each golf course. The Park Rangers participated in the "Shop with a Hero" event at a local Walmart before the holiday season. We welcome our new Human Resource Representative for Parks, Amie Davis.

Mr. Mike Crocker, Assistant Director Mr. Crocker reported that the Zoo recorded over 200,000 visitors in 2017. Zoo staff will assist with Eagle Days at Lake Springfield, along with other organizations around the state. Mr. Crocker stated that the Zoo remains open in the winter months.

Mr. Bob Belote, Director of Parks Mr. Belote stated that staff has been reviewing and preparing our budget for the upcoming workshop with the Board, which will be held the week of January 22. Although presenting a balanced budget remains challenging, we prioritize our critical needs and fund what we can in the budget cycle. It was at the Budget Workshop two years ago was when the Board challenged staff to identify other revenue streams, which is how the Food and Beverage Proposal began. We are appreciative that the proposal has received endorsement by the City Council's Community Involvement Committee, and we will continue to move the proposal forward. The proposal is on the City Council's Agenda for the first reading on January 16. Recently, Mr. Belote and staff met with Friends of Timmons Temple, now known as Timmons Hall, to discuss the ongoing restoration process and eventual reopening. We are planning to open the facility to the public in 2018. Mr. Belote mentioned that he followed up with a local church, who was interested in potentially building in a community center in a neighborhood park. The church organization is still interested in developing a formal proposal to present to the Park Board. The MPRA magazine features many staff and activities in this month's publication. A copy will be provided to the Park Board members.

Mr. Belote mentioned that Chris Straw, Director of Building Development Services, recently retired. Mr. Straw was instrumental in assisting our department with facility issues and signage. Mr. Harlan Hill will be Mr. Straw's replacement.

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 regularly scheduled Park Board meeting will be Friday, February 9, 2018, at the Park Board Administrative Offices. As previously mentioned, a Budget Workshop meeting will be scheduled according to the Board members availability, during the week of January 22.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. John Price made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Bob Horton. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.