

MINUTES
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Park Board Administrative Offices, 1923 N. Weller, Springfield, Missouri
and via Microsoft Teams for Park Board Members
Friday, January 10, 2025

1. ROLL CALL

Mr. Curtis Jared, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Park Board Members Present: Leslie Carrier (via Teams), Cody Danastasio, Curtis Jared, Mark McNay, Dr. Dale Moore (via Teams), Dr. Dianna Parker (via Teams), Royce Reding, Susie Turner

Park Board Members Absent: Don Chenevert, Jr.

Park Board Staff Present: Jon Carney, Tim Carpenter, Matt Coats, Jenny Edwards, Jim Fisher (via Teams), Anne-Mary McGrath, Karen Mellinger, Trey Metzelthin, Jerry Mitchell, Miles Park, Kim Reser, Ron Schneider, Jill Simmons, Jackson Thompson, Lana Woolsey

Guests: Developmental Center of the Ozarks: Marisa Declue (via Teams), Robin Helsel (via Teams) Ben Haldiman (via Teams); Ozarks Food Harvest: Ali Pool (via Teams) (via Teams)

II. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mark McNay, Park Board Secretary, made a motion to accept the minutes from the Friday, December 13, 2024, Park Board meeting; seconded by Ms. Susie Turner. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. REPORT OF THE OFFICERS

There were no reports from the officers.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Approval of a License Agreement with University of Missouri Extension Center for use of office space at the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center** Director of Parks, Ron Schneider, stated that this agenda item was tabled from the January meeting as the University of Missouri Extension Center staff requested additional time to review the agreement. Due to staff absence and the holiday break, University of Missouri Extension Center requested that this item be tabled again until our February 14, 2025, Park Board meeting. Mr. Royce Reding made the motion that at the request of the Director of Parks, this matter will be tabled until our February 14, 2025, Park Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Mark McNay. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **2024 Turkey Trot Report and Check Presentation** Superintendent of Recreation, Anne-Mary McGrath, provided a recap of the 2024 Turkey Trot event, which celebrated its 30th anniversary. This event continues to be the largest Thanksgiving Day 5K in the State of Missouri. We had 6,207 participants, which was an increase of six percent from last year's event. Our sponsorship contributions were up 12 percent making it the highest amount we have collected. Sponsors this year included Hall Ansley PC, Cox Health, Davis Properties, Brightspeed Business, Foundation Recovery Systems, Brad Bradshaw, Great Southern Bank, Cox Health Plans, Penmac, Renewals by Anderson, Esterly-Schneider, Ozarks-Coca Cola/Dr. Pepper Bottling Company, Multipli Credit Union, and Sumner One. We also received promotional or in-kind support from KY3/KSPR TV, Midwest Family Broadcasting, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Radio Station Power 96.5, and Sumner One. Refreshments were provided by Starbucks, Hiland Dairy, Coca-Cola—Body Armor, Pyramid Foods, and Associated Wholesale Grocers. The success of the event is due to the collaboration of many Parks Divisions, as well, including Park Operations, Communications, Park Rangers, Special Events, Community Athletics, Business Operations, along with the assistance of several City Departments, and volunteers from Ozark Mountain Ridge Runners.

We began collecting food donations in the early 2000's for Ozarks Food Harvest as part of the Turkey Trot community event. This year we collected 4,584 pounds of food, including items from the "most needed list" that was distributed in the race packets. Since 2001, donations from Turkey Trot and the Splash 'N Sizzle summer pool collections, have provided 289,810 meals to the community. Developmental Center of the Ozarks (DCO) has been a partner since the first Turkey Trot event. The proceeds from Turkey Trot are split equally with DCO, which they use to primarily fund early intervention therapies. A check in the amount of \$32,365.15 was presented to DCO. Parks portion of the proceeds will be placed in the Park Board Youth Recreation Scholarship Fund.

- b. **Accept the Donation of Kayaking Equipment from Bass Pro valued at \$7,415** Superintendent of Special Facilities, Matt Coats, presented information regarding a donation of equipment from Bass Pro to use at our facilities. Mr. Cody Danastasio made a motion that the Park Board accept the proposed Bass Pro donation of 13 Ascend Kayaks, 13 sets of Ascend Paddles, and 13 Bass Pro recreational life jackets, with a total value of \$7,415, as set out in the Resolution presented to the Board today; seconded by Mr. Royce Reding. The motion was passed unanimously.
- c. **Approval of a License Agreement with TrailSpring, Inc. to fund and construct a bicycle pump track at McDaniel Park** Director of Parks Schneider mentioned that letters of support from the Seminole-Holland Neighborhood Association and the Springfield Youth Cycling Club for the proposed bicycle pump track at McDaniel Park were distributed at today's meeting. The estimated cost to build the pump track is \$555,000, which would be funded by TrailSpring. There are additional improvements proposed such as a necessary entrance and a parking lot, which would be completed in Phase I, using Public Works program funds, with City Council approval. Phase II improvements include a restroom and site lighting, but these enhancements are currently not funded. Parks staff will work with TrailSpring to design the pump track. The Board was supportive of the efforts to work

together with city and community partners to bring this project to fruition. Mr. Mark McNay made the motion that the Park Board approve the pump track project for McDaniel Park and approve of the Park Board contracting with TrailSpring for the design, construction, and donation of the pump track for this location; seconded by Mr. Dale Moore. The motion was approved unanimously.

- d. **Approval to accept \$10,000 from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks Everyone Outdoors Grant Program** Superintendent of Recreation, Anne-Mary McGrath, mentioned that through a grant program administered by the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, we have an opportunity to receive monies to fund outdoor recreation programs. The free programs offered to various youth and adults entitled, "History in Parks, Plants, and Greene County," would be offered at the following park sites: Lake Springfield, Lost Hill, Grant Beach, Route 66/West Meadows, Fassnight and Silver Springs Park. The Park Board will provide a \$4,000 match for receipt of these funds which will be satisfied through in-kind services of Park employees preparing and presenting the programs. Ms. Susie Turner made a motion that the Park Board approve the Resolution presented to the Board today, which authorizes the application for and acceptance of a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, with a \$4,000 match by the Park Board, and with these CFO funds, use them for purchasing materials and staff time for implementation of Park's history in our parks, plants, and Greene County programs; seconded by Mr. Mark McNay. The motion was approved unanimously.
- e. **Director of Parks Report and Comments** Director Schneider stated that staff is preparing the necessary documents for the Fees and Charges Committee meeting on Thursday, January 16. Any Park Board member is welcome to attend the meeting. The monthly attendance and revenue spreadsheet through December 2024 is included in the Board's packet for review. Springfield was recently awarded the Special Olympics Missouri State Outdoor Games for 2025 through 2027. Jefferson City has been the host city for this event for nearly 40 years. Park Board facilities that will be used for the Outdoor Games include Bill and Payne Stewart Golf Course, Cooper Tennis Complex, Lake Country Soccer, and softball fields at either Killian or Meador. This event will have significant tourism economic impact for the City. A pre-construction meeting for the Killian Cooper Youth Baseball improvements project was conducted on January 6, 2025, and GeoSurfaces was awarded the project. The construction contract was issued on December 24, 2024, with an official Notice to Proceed issued on January 6, 2025. The contractor has 270 days to substantially complete the project without penalties, so we anticipate the project to be completed in October of 2025.

VI. CALENDAR

The next regularly scheduled Park Board meeting will be Friday, February 14, 2025, at the Park Board Administrative Offices.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Susie Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Royce Reding. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.