

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

July 11, 2017

A meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 12:00 pm in the Centennial Park Boardroom, 2565 Park Plaza, Nashville, TN. Board members present were: Mr. George Anderson, Ms. Jenn Garcia, Mr. Stan Fossick, Ms. Tari Hughes, Ms. Brenda Diaz-Flores, and Dr. Jo Ann Brannon. Dr. Michelle Steele was not in attendance.

Staff present were: Mr. Rick Taylor, Consolidated Maintenance; Ms. Sherry Hipps and Mr. Stevon Neloms, Community Recreation; Mr. Tim Netsch, Planning and Facilities; Mr. John Holmes, Revenue Producing Facilities; Ms. Shain Dennison, Greenways; Mr. Jim Hester, Cultural and Outdoor Recreation/Special Events; Ms. Jackie Jones, Superintendent/Public Information; Lt. Houston Taylor/ Park Police and **Ms. Macy Amos, representing the Metro Legal Department.**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 6, 2017 APPROVED

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the Board approved the minutes of the board meeting held Tuesday, June 6, 2017 as presented.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

RECOGNATION OF THE EAST REGIONAL CENTER STAFF FOR CARE OF 3 CHILDREN LEFT ABANDONED AT EAST PARK

Ms. Sherry Hipps, representing the Community Recreation Division, was present to acknowledge employees of East Regional Center for their generosity and kindness to others in need while providing care and comfort to 3 children (ages 9, 6, and a 3 month old infant) who were abandoned at East Park Regional Center on Saturday, June 3, 2017. The employees recognized were:

- Darlene Morrow – Facilities Manger
- Tiffanie Fletcher – Recreation Leader
- Lane Clark – Recreation Leader/Life Guard
- Tia Mason – Recreation Attendant
- Ishaya Fletcher – Recreation Attendant

Ms. Keena Gilbert, Lead Investigator with the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, notified Ms. Sally Davis of the kindness and concern these employees showed the children.

Ms. Odom thanked the employees and stated that they are a true testament of this department.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

**“BETTER CITIES FOR PETS”, A MARS PETCARE US PROGRAM,
PRESENTED TO THE BOARD**

Ms. Angel May and Ms. Jam Stewart, representing Mars Petcare, were present to introduce “Better Cities for Pets” to the board. Their mission is to “Encourage U.S. cities to provide ample places for every dog and cat to live, visit and play by supporting shelters, homes and businesses”. Ms. May and Ms. Stewart have previously introduced “Better Cities for Pets” to other department heads within Metro Government. They are using a tailored approach as they proceed toward their goal of a new model for pet-friendly policies and practices Nashville in 2017, and adding additional cities in the future. Their method is as follows:

- **Discovery** – assess and identify gaps per pillar, tailored to each city’s needs.
- **Action Mapping** – engage partners to address targeted gaps.
- **Implementation** – assign stakeholders to implement against action plan
- **Amplification** – support with overarching public education initiative

Priorities for pet-friendly cities are:

Shelters – because no one actually knows how many homeless pets they are and because many pet shelters, rescues and foster programs have limited space and/or funding which makes for uncomfortable pets as well as unappealing for those who might adopt. Currently partnering with Rescue Rebuild to construct indoor/outdoor cat adoption space

Homes – One of the foremost reasons pets are surrendered to shelters is housing issues. Apartments and condominiums often have rules prohibiting or restricting pets due to size, ages, pet type, breed, behavior, cleanliness, etc.

Businesses - Taking pets shopping, to work or out to eat means companionship and not leaving them home alone; however, many cities have ordinances which prohibit pets in public places.

Parks – The more accessible parks, trails, and green space a community has will keep pets healthy, reduce anxiety/boredom and stimulate their minds. Active play with other pets helps to improve social skills as well.

Progress to date:

- Have begun development of a pet-friendly model in Nashville
- Established key partnerships including Nashville Civic Design Center, Pet Community Center, and U.S. Conference of Mayors
- Branding, signage and materials
- Signature adoption weekend-Parks will collaborate in the announcement of the August 26-27 adoption event.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

**“BETTER CITIES FOR PETS”, A MARS PETCARE US PROGRAM,
PRESENTED TO THE BOARD (con’t.)**

Mr. Gary Gaston and Ms. Jolie Yockey, representatives from the Nashville Civic Design Center were in attendance to support this program. Mr. Gaston suggested:

- Outfit current parks with responsible pet ownership signage at existing waste and hydration stations;
- Partnering with Metro Parks and Metro Public Works;
- Enhance existing dog parks and trails. Shelby Dog Park and Shelby Bottoms were used as examples:

separation of large and small dogs
adding more hydration stations
adding shaded areas
more waste stations in Shelby Bottoms

Ms. Odom announced that Jackie Jones, Bill Troup and Tim Netsch are parks representatives working with the Mars Petcare group.

Mr. Fossick asked if Mars Petcare is working with the Metro Health Department and Ms. Stewart said yes.

Mr. Anderson suggested that the training of dogs would improve their social skills and hoped Mars Petcare was considering that.

Mr. Anderson thanked Ms. Stewart, Ms. May, Mr. Gaston and Ms. Yockey for their attendance and stated that Metro Parks looks forward to working with them.

VII. METRO COUNCIL REFERRALS

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

06-17-03

**BOARD APPROVES ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FRIENDS OF KIMBRO STATION
AS AN OFFICIAL VOLUNTEER SUPPORT GROUP TO METRO PARKS**

In July 2013 the Joe C. Davis Foundation began researching a new investment priority focusing on health, wellness and livability and in September 2013 – the foundation narrowed its search to health and wellness opportunities through outdoor recreation and parks.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

06-17-03 (con't.)

**BOARD APPROVES ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FRIENDS OF KIMBRO STATION
AS AN OFFICIAL VOLUNTEER SUPPORT GROUP TO METRO PARKS**

A private/public partnership was formed between Metro Parks (Shain Dennison), The Conservation Fund (Ralph Knoll), and the Joe C. Davis Foundation. On July 7, 2015 the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation approved acquisition of land – 581 acres valued at \$15,369,111. In September 2015 the land was acquired with Metro Council's approved funding of \$11.2 million; Joe C. Davis Foundation's contribution of \$4.1 million for acquisition; \$150,000 in ancillary expenses; and \$1,150,000 in charitable contributions –short sale -from landowners.

The mission of this group is to enhance and preserve outdoor space in Southeast Nashville for the health, recreation and cultural enrichment of the community; therefore, the purpose of the Friends of Kimbro Station is:

- To preserve the natural resources and spaces of the parks in Southeast Nashville;
- To partner with Metropolitan Government of Nashville Parks and Recreation department and other organizations to create meaningful outdoor recreational experiences for the Southeast community;
- To engage the community through meaningful programming in the areas of health, wellness and livability, nature and natural landscapes, agriculture and nature education, multi-cultural recreations, social equity and access to parks, and historic preservation.
- PAKS seeks to become a resource and support organization to Metro Parks Department.

Based upon committee recommendation and upon motion of Ms. Garcia, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the board approved the establishment of The Friends of Kimbro Station as an official volunteer support group to Metro Parks with the understanding that the name of the park may change once officially named.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

07-17-01

BOARD APPROVES JULY 2017 CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved the July 2017 consent agenda as presented.

AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL

- iLoveKickboxing Field Day Richland Park Sun., July 16, 2017
- First Baptist Church W. Nashville R. H. Boyd Park Sun., July 16, 2017
- KIPP Nashville Community Night Coleman Park Wed., July 19, 2017
- Spirit & Truth Believers Fellowship McKissack Park Fri., July 21, 2017
- Jubilee Church Worship Night Bellevue Park Sat., July 26 & Aug,5 2017
- Charles Weir – picnic Two Rivers Picnic Shelters 2 & 4 Sat., Aug. 12, 2017
- Terri Cox-picnic Centennial Park Picnic Pavilion Sat., Aug. 12, 2017
- Century Fire Protection Appreciation Day Parthenon Lawn Fri., Aug. 18, 2017
- Hummingbird Productions Solar Fest Riverfront Park Sun., Aug. 20, 2017
- Linda Howard - picnic Hartman Park Picnic Shelter 1 Sat., Sept. 2, 2017
- Isaac Bailey – picnic Edwin Warner Picnic Shelter 11 Sat., Sept. 2, 2017
- Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee Sevier Park Sat., April 21, 2018

FUNDRAISING APPROVAL

- Creative Artists of Tennessee, INC. Hadley Park Bandshell Sun., July 30, 2017
- Angelman Syndrome Foundation Centennial Park – walk Sat., May 19, 2018
- TAADAS Carnival Coleman Park Sat., June 2, 2018

ALCOHOL APPROVAL

- Officially Scharfs Kickball Game East Park Ballfield Fri., Sept. 15, 2017
- Percy Priest Yacht Club Hamilton Creek Marina-regattas March 17,24;April 14;
May 19-20; June 16; Sept. 15; Oct. 6-7; Oct. 20-21; Nov. 3; Dec. 1-2, 2018

AMPLIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL

- Tennessee Telugu Samithi (TTS) Warner Park Shelters 9,10,11-picnic Sat., Aug. 26, 2017
- Common Ground Cooperative Centennial Event Shelter Sun., Sept. 3, 2017
- What Do You Run For-Mutt Strutt5K Centennial Park 1 mile loop Sat., Sept. 16, 2017
- Couples for Christ ANCOP Walk 2017 Cane Ridge Park Shelters 1&3 Sat., Oct. 14, 2017
- Cure SMA Nashville Walk-n-Roll Centennial Park Sun., Oct. 15, 2017
- Yoga Sunset at Cumberland Park Cumberland Park Sun., Oct. 15, 2017
- Cupids Chase 5K Run/Walk Shelby Park/Riverview Shelter Sat., Feb. 10, 2018
- Nashville Walks for Nashville’s Children Sevier Park Sat., April 7, 2018
- LUNG FORCE Walk Public Square Park Sat., May 19, 2018

AMPLIFICATION AND ALCOHOL APPROVAL

- Nashville Disc Golf Store Ravenwood-disc golf tournament Aug., 5 & 6, 2017
- Tone It Up Fitness Festival The Green at Riverfront Park Thurs. Oct. 5, 2017
- 12South Winter Warmer Sevier Park Sat., Dec. 2, 2017

07-17-01 (con't.)

BOARD APPROVES JULY 2017 CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved the July 2017 consent agenda as presented.

AMPLIFICATION, ALCOHOL AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL

- The Conservancy Gala Parthenon & Parthenon Plaza Sat., Nov. 4, 2017
- American Cancer Society-RelayLIVE 2018 Centennial Park Front Lawn Sat., April 14, 2018
- Ride for Reading East Park-East Nashville Beer Festival Sat., April 14, 2018

07-17-02

BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF THE FRIENDS OF TWO RIVERS MANSION TO FUND SALARY OF LAURA CARRILLO UNDER THE NEW METRO PAY PLAN

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved the request of the Friends of Two Rivers Mansion to amend the continuation of a grant to fund the salary of Laura Carrillo for 19 hours per week. This request was based upon a new pay plan effective July 1, 2017. This grant for FY18 ending June 30, 2018 is now in the amount of \$18,870.80 (\$19.10 x 19 hours x 52 weeks) and any costs associated with benefits are to be the responsibility of Metro Parks. Metro Parks will continue to process weekly timesheets and pay checks on an ongoing basis. The Friends of Two Rivers Mansion or Metro Parks may discontinue this agreement with a 30 day notice to the other party.

X. NEW BUSINESS

07-17-03

BOARD ACCEPTS DONATION OF SIGNAGE FROM THE NASHVILLE AQUATIC CLUB TO BE PLACED IN THE NATATORIUM OF THE CENTENNIAL SPORTSPLEX

Correspondence received from Mr. John Morse, Head Coach of the Nashville Aquatic Club, requesting the board to accept a donation of signage valued at \$11,218.85 to be placed in the natatorium of the Centennial Sportsplex was presented to the board.

Upon motion of Ms. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Diaz-Flores, the board accepted this donation from the Nashville Aquatic Club. This new over the pool signage will replace current signage, relocate current signage to above the seating area and provide signage to span three of the columns surrounding the entrance to the locker room area. The board also agreed to make the lift currently housed at the Sportsplex available for installation.

X. NEW BUSINESS

07-17-04

**BOARD APPROVES APPLICATION AND ULTIMATE ACCEPTANCE
OF A TENNESSEE ARTS COMMISSION ABC GRANT
TO FUND THE SECOND PHASE OF THE SPECTATOR/CREATOR PROJECT**

Upon motion of Ms. Diaz-Flores, seconded by Ms. Garcia, the board unanimously approved application and ultimate acceptance of this request submitted by the Dance and Theater Divisions of the Metro Parks Cultural Arts Department. This request of the Tennessee Arts Commission ABC grant in the amount of \$2,500 is to fund the second phase of the Spectator/Creator project which began in fall 2016 with free arts-based workshops for pre-schoolers and their caregivers at each regional center. Phase II involves creating a performance inspired by the art created in the workshops and touring the performance back to each regional center with the potential of expanding to other community centers with a large pre-school population. (Friends of Metro Dance have agreed to be the matching organization that the grant requires.)

07-17-05

**BOARD ACCEPTS DONATION FROM THE FRIENDS OF WARNER PARK FOR THE
PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING THE WARNER PARK NATURE CENTER**

Upon motion of Dr. Brannon, seconded by Ms. Garcia, the board approved request of Ms. Vera Vollbrecht, representing the Warner Park Nature Center, to accept a donation in the amount of \$1,106 from the Friends of Warner Parks for the purpose of supporting the Warner Park Nature Center was presented to the board. These donated funds will be used to purchase a laptop to be used by the BIRD Research Program.

07-17-06

**BOARD AFFIRMS SALARY FOR MONIQUE ODOM, INTERIM DIRECTOR
OF METRO PARKS AS IMPLEMENTED BY METRO HUMAN RESOURCES**

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Ms. Diaz-Flores, the board approved the salary for Monique Odom as recommended by Mayor Barry. The Mayor sets the Director's pay so as the reviews for the July 1 pay increase were being addressed by Mayor Barry, she wanted Ms. Odom to receive an increase when she was appointed Interim Director. Mr. Anderson, board chair, was notified and was in agreement; therefore, the recommended salary for Monique Odom is \$119,300.80, retro-active to March 19, 2017.

Please note that this is consistent in the manner in which Curt Garrigan's salary was handled in May 2003 when he was appointed Interim Director of Parks after Jim Fyke resigned as Director of Parks.

XI. UPCOMING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Ms. Jones announced:

Thursday, July 13 9:00 am ribbon cutting at Fort Nashborough

XII. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Shain Dennison introduced Ms. Amy Crownover as the director of Greenways Nashville. Ms. Crownover replaced Ms. Emmie Thomas who resigned in May. Shain will retire from Metro Parks on August 1; however, she will continue working on a Land Conservation Grant Program administered by the Greenways and Open Space Commission. The Greenways and Open Space Commission will appear before the Parks Board quarterly.

XIII. CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE – Tim Netsch

Tim Netsch reported the following updates:

- **Azafran Park** – Entering permitting phase; groundbreaking should be scheduled soon.
- **Brake Park** – Hazmat remediation/demolition has begun and should be complete summer 2017.
- **Centennial Park Master Plan** – Have construction documents for the great lawn. Schematic design underway (donor to design space) for the Children’s Memorial and Playground and should be complete summer 2017.
The Conservancy’s capital campaign currently underway.
- **Fannie Mae Dees Park** – Stabilization underway. Tile restoration begins summer 2017.
- **Hadley Park** – Hazmat remediation/demolition should be complete July 2017.
- **Madison Recreation Center** – Currently bricking the building, estimated completion date – spring 2018.
- **Orchard Bend Park** – Rain has slowed the construction project. Estimated completion date-spring 2018.
- **Ravenwood/Lytle Bend Master Plan** – Master Plan underway.
- **Smith Springs Park** – Currently framing is going up-completion date - summer 2017.
- **Southeast/Antioch Master Plan** – Master Plan underway.
- **Neely’s Bend Middle School** – Currently undergoing tennis court refurbishing.

XIV. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Odom thanked Shain for all of her work with Metro Parks and she looks forward to having her as a resource.

Ms. Odom announced:

- The Cleveland Park tree incident has not proven anything significant regarding the councilmember and/or the developer. The Park Police are conducting investigation.
- There has been a protest of the award process regarding the Greer Stadium project. Once litigation is complete, the process can proceed by coming to the Parks Board and then the Metro Council will make the ultimate decision.
PLEASE NOTE: Ms. Diaz-Flores suggested that when the project comes back to this body a public hearing should be scheduled regarding the Greer Stadium project.
- The September Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12th.

XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/OPEN ITEMS

Mr. Anderson announced that a meeting will be held later in July regarding the Directors search.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Monique N. Odom, Interim Director

George Anderson, Chairperson