

# **METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

## **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**January 8, 2019**

A meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 12:00 pm in the Centennial Park Boardroom, 2565 Park Plaza, Nashville, TN. Board members present were: Mr. George Anderson, Mr. Stan Fossick, Dr. Michelle Steele, Ms. Tari Hughes, and Ms. Susannah Scott-Barnes. Mr. Jeff Haynes and Dr. Sharon Gentry were not in attendance.

Staff present were: Ms. Chinita White, Administration and Finance; Mr. Rick Taylor, Consolidated Maintenance; Mr. Stevon Neloms, Community Recreation; Mr. Tim Netsch, Planning and Facilities; Mr. John Holmes, Revenue Producing Facilities; Mr. Jim Hester, Outdoor Recreation/Special Events; Ms. Cindy Harrison, Greenways; Capt. Chris Taylor, Parks Police and **Ms. Macy Amos, representing the Metro Legal Department.**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD DECEMBER 4, 2018 APPROVED**

Upon motion of Ms. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Fossick, the Board approved the minutes of the board meeting held Tuesday, December 4, 2018 as presented.

**V. METRO COUNCIL REFERRALS - none**

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**12-18-09**

### **BOARD GRANTS APPROVAL TO NAME SITE CURRENTLY KNOWN AS GOODLETTSVILLE PARK LOCATED AT 7744 OLD SPRINGFIELD PIKE MANSKER CREEK PARK**

As per recommendation of the Naming Committee, upon motion of Ms. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Fossick, the board approved staff request to adopt the name Mansker Creek Park for the site currently referred to as Goodlettsville Park located at 7744 Old Springfield Pike.

This park is being developed on floodplain property that has historically been used as pasture or crop land. The primary character-defining natural feature of the land is Mansker Creek, which forms the eastern boundary of the linear property. There is approximately one-half mile of creek frontage. Park improvements will include a creek side paved trail and playground.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

12-18-10

**BOARD GRANTS APPROVAL TO NAME SITE CURRENTLY REFERRED TO AS  
CAPITOL VIEW PARK LOCATED AT 130 LIFEWAY PLAZA  
FRANKIE PIERCE PARK**

As per recommendation of the Naming Committee, upon motion of Dr. Steele and seconded by Ms. Scott-Barnes, the board approved staff request to adopt the name Frankie Pierce Park for the site currently referred to as Capitol View Park located at 130 Lifeway Plaza.

The Capitol View site is located in what was once a disadvantaged community that benefited from many of Mrs. Pierce's civic and social services endeavors and is one block from the historic First Baptist Colored Church (later First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill) where Mrs. Pierce was an active member. She also lived in the area as a child. Mrs. Pierce's achievements and service, and her geographic connection to this location make her an appropriate namesake for the park. Biographical information below:

Juno Frankie Seay Pierce  
Unknown – March 28, 1954

Although it is clear that Juno Frankie Seay Pierce was born in Nashville to Frank Seay and Nellie Allen Seay, little is known about her early life including her birth year. At least one secondary source describes her father as a free man and her mother as a house slave to US Congressman Col. Robert Allen of Carthage, Tennessee. It is believed Nellie migrated to Nashville with Allen's son Dixon during his tenure with the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1829 through 1833. The 1870 Federal Census, the earliest family record located, placed the Seay family in the city's Fourth Ward. Frankie, listed as *France*, was 8 years old. By 1900, Frankie's parents owned a home on McLemore Street in the Fourth Ward. Ten years later, they lived on Fillmore Street in the Thirteenth Ward.

After receiving a formal education at the Joseph G. McKee Freedmen School, the first free African American school in Nashville, and Roger Williams University, Frankie briefly taught school in Nashville. In 1895, she married Clement Pierce of Paris, Texas and relocated to his hometown where she continued teaching. During visits to Nashville, Frankie remained active in the First Baptist Colored Church on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and often spoke to Women's Clubs and other groups. On July 8, 1910, *The Nashville Globe* reported on the activities of the church's Ladies Aid Society stating, "Interesting and wholesome remarks were made by Mrs. Frankie Pierce, formerly of Nashville, but now of Texas. She is always filled with words of encouragements and advice, which are always very gratefully received." Following Clement's death in 1912, Frankie returned to Nashville to live with her mother who had become active in community life. Frankie took a teaching position at Belleview School and soon became active in the YMCA women's auxiliary.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**12-18-10 (con't.)**

**BOARD GRANTS APPROVAL TO NAME SITE CURRENTLY REFERRED TO AS  
CAPITOL VIEW PARK LOCATED AT 130 LIFEWAY PLAZA  
FRANKIE PIERCE PARK**

In 1917, Frankie delivered remarks at the Negro Board of Trade's Fourth of July exercises in Hadley Park. During World War One, Frankie served on fundraising committees for the Red Cross and the YMCA. In July 1918, she spoke at an event under the auspices of the Colored Chapter of the Council of National Defense focusing on improving social conditions, including sexual health, among soldiers and civilians. In 1919, Frankie and Mrs. Arch Trawich of the central YWCA (white branch) founded the Blue Triangle League, "the colored branch" of the YWCA. Within a year, the league offering African American women and girls a social outlet, a place to live, and a variety of classes and programs outgrew the third floor of the Napier Court building on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and relocated to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. During this time, Frankie also founded and presided over the Nashville Federation of Colored Women's Clubs and the Tennessee Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. On May 19, 1920, at the invitation of nationally recognized suffrage leader Catherine Kenny, Frankie addressed the state suffrage convention held in the House chamber of the Tennessee capitol. At this victory convention of the Tennessee League of Women Voters, Frankie, the only African American to speak, asked, "What will the Negro woman do with the vote?" In response, she laid out a poignant defense for racial and gender equality drawing on the common bonds forged by war. Like whites, Frankie argued, African Americans gave money, purchased bonds, collected supplies, and prayed. In return, they only asked for a "square deal."

When the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment passed, Frankie and Tennessee League of Women Voters leveraged this new power in securing state funding to establish the Tennessee Vocational School for Colored Girls. The 66 acre campus located on Heiman Street opened in 1923 and immediately began accepting 12 to 15 year old girls from juvenile courts across the state ending the barbaric practice of incarcerating children for minor offenses. As superintendent, Frankie worked tirelessly to gain support for the school from government and community leaders. Although Frankie retired in 1939, her successors maintained her vision expanding the school to offer primary and secondary education and psychological counseling.

While serving as superintendent, Frankie continued to preside over the state and city federation of clubs, remained active with the YMCA and other organizations, and routinely spoke at events and meetings. During the 1930s, she chaired the women's division of the Tennessee Interracial League and as vice president of the Negro Voters League. During World War Two, Frankie led the Red Cross's Women's Division. In 1948, she served on the 6<sup>th</sup> District Republican Election Committee and campaigned for a place on the Republican Party State Executive Committee. In 1951, the Nashville Chapter of Links, Inc., a national organization of professional women of color, named Frankie "Woman of the Year."

VI. OLD BUSINESS

12-18-10 (con't.)

**BOARD GRANTS APPROVAL TO NAME SITE CURRENTLY REFERRED TO AS  
CAPITOL VIEW PARK LOCATED AT 130 LIFEWAY PLAZA  
FRANKIE PIERCE PARK**

On March 22, 1954, Frankie suffered a *cerebrovascular hemorrhage* and died six days later. Her death certificate listed her occupation as “Leader in Civic and Religious Organizations.” Frankie was buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Following her death, the community continued to honor her legacy of service and her devotion to social change. In 1966, the school she worked so tirelessly to found and to operate named a new dormitory in her honor. Twenty years later, *The Tennessean* included Frankie in a Black History Month poll honoring local African American leaders. In 2015, Alan LeQuire unveiled a model of the Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument depicting five suffrage leaders including Frankie Pierce. On August 28, 2016, state and local leaders dedicated the monument in Centennial Park.

12-18-11

**BOARD GRANTS APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN EXCESS LAND LICENSE  
AGREEMENT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING  
A 0.51 ACRE PARCEL AS PART OF THE 440 GREENWAY**

As per recommendation of the Acquisition Committee, upon motion of Mr. Fossick and seconded by Ms. Scott-Barnes, the board granted approval to enter into an excess land license agreement with the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a multi-use pedestrian greenway on a 0.51 acre parcel along Interstate 440 adjacent to the northbound ramp onto northeast bound West End Avenue as part of the 440 Greenway. This is a 10 year renewable license agreement at no cost to Metro. It is also consistent with Plan2Play, the greenways master plan and development of the 440 Greenway and will provide a trailhead location, a neighborhood connection to the future 440 Greenway and an existing bus stop.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

01-19-01

**BOARD APPROVES JANUARY 2019 CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Dr. Steele, the board approved the January 2019 consent agenda as presented.

**AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL**

- Power Together Rally
- Movies In the Park

Public Square Park  
Elmington Park

Sat., Jan. 19, 2019  
Thurs. June 6,13,20, 2019

**X. CONSENT AGENDA**

**01-19-01(con't.)**

**BOARD APPROVES JANUARY 2019 CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Dr. Steele, the board approved the January 2019 consent agenda as presented.

**AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL**

- Jessica McKnight-picnic Cedar Hill Park Shelters 1 & 2 Sat., June 8, 2019
- Angela Sevier-picnic E. Warner Park Shelter 10 Sat., July 6, 2019
- 12 South Neighborhood Association Sevier Park-Farmers Market on Tuesdays April 30-Oct. 29, 2019

**FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- TN Voices for Victims-trail ride Warner Horse Trail Sat., Sept. 7, 2019
- Freedom Reigns Charity Fun Show Warner Equestrian Center Sat., Sept. 21, 2019

**ALCOHOL APPROVAL**

- Jansen Milam-wedding rehearsal Hodge House- Warner Park Fri., May 17, 2019

**AMPLIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- Nashville Bar Association-Race Judicata Warner Park Shelter 11/Greenway Sat., April 6, 2019
- United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation Centennial Event Shelter-walk/race Sun, April 14, 2019
- Nashville Children's Alliance- walk Sevier Park Sat., May 18, 2019
- TN Stormwater Association-5Kwalk/run Shelby Park/Event Field Sat., Aug., 3, 2019
- Safe Haven Family Shelter-walk Warner shelters 9 & 11 Sat., Nov. 9, 2019

**AMPLIFICATION AND ALCOHOL APPROVAL**

- Ragnar Events LLC-walk/race Walk of Fame Park Sat., Oct. 5, 2019
- C3 Presents Music City Food and Wine Festival Walk of Fame Park-Harvest Night Sat., Sept. 21, 2019
- Walk of Fame Park-Gospel Brunch Sun., Sept. 22, 2019
- Nashville Gypsy Jazz & Django Festival Sevier Park Sat., Octo 12, 2019

**ALCOHOL AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- Nashville Predators Alumni Association Centennial Sportsplex-fantasy hockey camp Jan. 25-27,2019

**AFTER HOURS APPROVAL**

- Nashville Amateur Radio Club Lock Two Park-2019 ARRL Field Day June 22-23, 2019

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**01-19-02**

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF THE BELLEVUE COMMUNITY FUND TO HONOR DONORS WITH A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE FOR FUNDS RAISED FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE RED CABOOSE PLAYGROUND**

Correspondence from the Bellevue Community Fund requesting approval from the board to honor donors for the redevelopment of the Red Caboose Playground and associated improvements with a commemorative plaque was presented to the board for approval.

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick and seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved donor recognition for funds raised for this project with plaque design to be reviewed and approved by Parks staff before implementation. Donor recognition will be retained for the life of the funded improvements, not in perpetuity.

**01-19-03**

**BOARD APPROVES NEW FEE STRUCTURE FOR MEMORIAL TREES AND BENCHES**

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick and seconded by Dr. Steele, the board approved a new fee structure for memorial trees and benches because the current fees do not cover the real costs and/or indirect costs associated with purchase and installation.

Below is the new fee structure for memorial trees and benches:

	<u>Previous Fee</u>	<u>New Fee</u>
New Bench	\$1200	\$2200
New Tree (approximately 2" caliper)	\$ 200	\$ 250

**IX. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

**MR. BRIAN TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF THE NASHVILLE PARKS FOUNDATION PRESENTS ANNUAL UPDATE TO THE BOARD**

Mr. Taylor began the annual update of the Nashville Parks Foundation with financial information. He stated that the balance as of December 31, 2018 is \$572,483 which is an increase of \$146,000 over last year. There is a balance of \$229,000 in restricted funds and a balance of \$342,900 in unrestricted funds. In the past year \$104,000 was issued in grants by the Nashville Parks Foundation.

**IX. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

**MR. BRIAN TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF THE NASHVILLE PARKS FOUNDATION PRESENTS ANNUAL UPDATE TO THE BOARD (con't.)**

Mr. Taylor reported that the Nashville Parks Foundation will be hosting Earth Day in 2019. In the past Metro Public Works has funded and managed this event; however, Earth Day will now become a signature event for the Parks Foundation. Dennis Freeman is under contract as the event manager and he has worked on this event previously with Metro Public Works.

The Nashville Parks Foundation is currently in the process of searching for a paid staff member to grow the foundation. Requirements of this position are to seek grants, contributions and oversee the foundation on a daily basis. Resumes are currently being accepted with a closing date of January 31, 2019. Dr. Steele inquired about the salary and Mr. Taylor stated the salary will commensurate with experience.

**X. CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE – Tim Netsch**

- Bellevue Red Caboose Playground replacement** – equipment ordered and community build days will be scheduled in the spring
- Centennial Master Plan** – Locomotive exiting Centennial Park January 13th
- Wharf Park** – Master Plan consultant proposals are currently being reviewed.
- Fort Negley** – Cultural Landscape Plan is complete in its draft form.
- Orchard Bend Park** – Substantially complete; however, because of the athletic fields no events are to be scheduled until spring.

**XI. UPCOMING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS – Jackie Jones**

**January 13 7:00 am No. 576 Steam Locomotive Removal from Centennial Park**

- 576 has been on display in Centennial Park since 1953.
- The locomotive will move from Centennial Park, via Park Plaza to Charlotte Avenue, to 12North and then arrives at its final destination of the Nashville & Western Railroad tracks. (Move should take 2-4 hours)
- The restoration of the landmark locomotive will take approximately four years at a cost of \$1.5 to 2 million.

**Now thru January 20**

**Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Art Show at the Frist Museum featuring artworks from the Swaney Art Workshop at the Metro Parks disAbilities Day Program**

**XII. DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**XIII. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Odom announced:

- \* The train (No. 576) will be leaving Centennial Park Sunday morning and it will be an exciting event.
- \* The Greer Stadium deconstruction contract and intent to award has been issued and contract negotiations are moving forward.
- \* The Mayor's budget hearings have tentatively been scheduled for the week of May 25; however, budget instructions have not been received to date.

Ms. Odom voiced her appreciation to the Nashville Parks Foundation for their support of the Metro Parks employee holiday event and the department.

**XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/OPEN ITEMS**

Mr. Anderson reported that the Fort Negley committee led by Kix Brooks will be having their first meeting within the next 2 weeks and Mr. Anderson will provide an update at the February board meeting.

Mr. Anderson also reported that Cheekwood has been making great efforts regarding parking options and will report back to the board in April.

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

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**Monique N. Odom, Director**

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**George Anderson, Chairperson**