

# **METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

## **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**June 2, 2020**

A meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee was held on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 12:00 pm via teleconference and was broadcast through the Metro Nashville Network, (MNN) <http://stream.nashville.gov> and select MNN, live on Nashville's Comcast Channel 3, AT&T UVerse Channel 99, Google Fiber channel 3 and streamed live on the MNN Roku app. Board members present were: Dr. Michelle Steele, Ms. Susannah Scott-Barnes, Mr. Stan Fossick, Ms. Tari Hughes, Mr. George Anderson, Mr. Jeff Haynes, Dr. Sharon Gentry and Ms. Macy Amos, representing the Metro Legal Department.

Dr. Michelle Steele, chair, called the meeting to order and stated that the first order of business will be a motion to determine under the Governor's Executive Order #16 that the meeting agenda constitutes essential business of this board and meeting electronically is necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. Ms. Scott-Barnes moved for approval, Ms. Hughes seconded, and the Board approved without objection.

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MAY 5, 2020 APPROVED**

Upon motion of Ms. Scott-Barnes, seconded by Mr. Hughes, the Board approved the minutes of the board meeting held Tuesday, May 5, 2020 as presented.

#### **IV. METRO COUNCIL REFERRALS - none**

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

**05-20-09**

### **BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS IN SHELBY PARK**

Correspondence from Piedmont Natural Gas Company requesting board approval of permanent and temporary construction easements in Shelby Park for the purpose of installing a new natural gas line and above ground improvements to the area was presented to the board.

As per recommendation of the Acquisition Committee, upon motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved the request of Piedmont Gas Company for permanent and temporary construction easements at 2009 Sevier Street in Shelby Park. This approval will allow for above ground improvements and installation of a new natural gas line to upgrade and improve service to the area. Metro will receive \$225,000 from Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. as fair market value compensation. Please note that proposed legislation designates the compensation monies to Metro; however, Ms. Odom reported that the funds may, in fact, be forthcoming to Parks after conservation with Metro Finance.

V. OLD BUSINESS

05-20-13

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**  
**EFFECTIVE JUNE 2, 2020 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2021**  
**AS PER SECTION 1000.4 OF THE METRO PARKS POLICY MANUAL**

The Parks Board Officers for 2020-21 nominated at the May board meeting were confirmed and elected as below.

Upon motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Hughes; the Board elected:

**Dr. Michelle Steele as Chairperson for one year**

Upon motion of Ms. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Anderson; the Board elected:

**Ms. Susannah Scott-Barnes as Vice-chairperson for one year**  
**(Please note that Ms. Scott-Barnes abstained from voting)**

Upon motion of Ms. Scott-Barnes, seconded by Dr. Gentry; the Board elected:

**Ms. Monique Odom as Secretary for one year**

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

06-20-01

**BOARD APPROVES JUNE 2020 CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion of Dr. Gentry, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved the June 2020 consent agenda as presented.

**AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL**

- |  |   |                      |
|--|---|----------------------|
| • Monroe Carrell Jr. Children's Hospital     | Centennial Park Event Shelter-picnic          | Fri., June 12, 2020  |
| • Kimberly Vaughn-candlelight vigil/memorial | Southeast Park                                | Sat., June 13, 2020  |
| • Phylisha Terry – picnic                    | Cedar Hill Park picnic shelter #4             | Sat., June 13, 2020  |
| • Monroe Carrell Jr. Children's Hospital     | Centennial Park Event Shelter-picnic          | Mon., June 15, 2020  |
| • YWCA of Nashville and Middle TN-rally      | Church Street Park                            | Thurs., Aug. 6, 2020 |
| • The Good Seed Organization                 | Centennial Park Event Shelter-picnic          | Sat., Aug. 22, 2020  |
| • Neighborhoods Resource Center              | Cedar Hill Park-Good Neighbor Day Festival    | Sat., Oct. 10, 2020  |
| • Team Magic Inc. – Walk/Run                 | East Bank Landing, Cumberland Park            | Sat., March 13, 2021 |
|  | Shelby Bottoms/Park, Cumberland Park Greenway |                      |
| • All Community Events – Walk/Run            | Two Rivers Park                               | Sat., March 13, 2021 |
| • Davidson County Register of Deeds          | Southeast Center/Park-Easter Egg Hunt         | Sat., March 27, 2021 |
| • Warner Elementary/MNPS                     | East Park – Community Egg Hunt                | Sat., April 3, 2021  |
| • Phit-N-Phat Personal Training, LLC         | Stones River Greenway- Walk/Run               | Sat., May 15, 2021   |

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

**06-20-01 (con't.)**

**BOARD APPROVES JUNE 2020 CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion of Dr. Gentry, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the board approved the June 2020 consent agenda as presented.

**FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- Nashville Tree Conservation Corps      Shelby Park-dog walking event      Sat., April 17, 2021

**AMPLIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- Nashville Striders – picnic/5k      Edwin Warner Park Shelter #11      Sat., July 25, 2020
- AN Sports Club - walk/run      McCabe Park      Sun., Sept. 12, 2020
- Parkinson’s Foundation-walk/run      Centennial Park Event Shelter      Sun., Oct. 18, 2020

**AMPLIFICATION, FUNDRAISING AND ALCOHOL APPROVAL**

- Hip Donelson Farmers Market      Grounds of Two Rivers Mansion      June-Oct. 2020

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**06-20-02**

**BOARD DEFERS REQUEST OF STAFF TO ACCEPT A GREENWAYS  
CONSERVATION EASEMENT FROM GREEN TRAILS, LLC,  
PARCEL 16400026200, LOCATED AT 0 ASHEFORD TRACE**

As per parks policy 3000.25 the board deferred staff request to accept a 0.15-acre greenways conservation easement from Green Trails, LLC, in a proposed residential development entitled Tree Haven on parcel, 16400026200 and located at 0 Asheford Trace. This request will be presented to the Acquisition Committee of the Parks Board preceding the July 7<sup>th</sup> Parks Board meeting.

**06-20-03**

**BOARD DEFERS REQUEST OF THE DONELSON-HERMITAGE EXCHANGE CLUB  
TO INSTALL FOUR INDIVIDUAL PLAQUES IN HERMITAGE PARK ADJACENT TO  
THE ‘CLEAR FOR LANDING’ SCULPTURE AS A 911 MEMORIAL**

As per parks policy 3000.41 the board deferred request of Mr. Phil Ponder, representing the Donelson-Hermitage Exchange Club, to have four individual plaques professionally installed on stands in Hermitage Park adjacent to the “Clear for Landing” sculpture designed by Joe Sorci as a 911 memorial. This request will be presented to the Signage Committee preceding the July 7<sup>th</sup> Parks Board meeting.

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

- **Antioch Community Center Renovation** – Renovation should be complete in June with the exception of new lighting. Lighting will be installed after the completed renovation.
- **Centennial/Phase Two** – Moving forward on the construction. In the next few weeks the Woman’s Suffrage Monument will be relocated to its permanent location in the plaza area of Centennial Park.
- **Kossie Gardner, Sr. Park – Phase One** – construction underway and should be complete in July.
- **Allee in Percy Warner Park** – total restoration should be complete in July.

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

**Bellevue Farmer’s Market**, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., every Thursday beginning May 21 – December 19, 2020

**12 South Farmer’s Market**, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., every Tuesday beginning May 5 – October 27

**Richland Farmer’s Market**, 10 a.m. – Noon, every Saturday until through December 19, 2020

Ms. Jones reported that when the **“Safer at Home”** order was issued communicating with constituents became very important to Metro Parks during this time and Metro Parks’ teammates responded via social media as follows:

- Community Centers hosted virtual book club meetings, art projects and “Everything You Need to Know about Basketball 101”.
- The Sportsplex hosted virtual workout programs for beginners, as well, as athletes.
- Nature Center staff member Chris Guerin is now known as the *“Outdoor Guy.”*

Before beginning social media programming Metro Parks had approximately 6,000 followers on Facebook; however, Metro Parks now has 7,226 followers to date and that is something to be proud of as a government agency. Since Phase Two has shifted to the virtual world, community centers and nature centers have a full range of programs scheduled for this summer, please check them out on Facebook and You Tube.

**X. DEPARTMENT UPDATES - none**

**XI. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Odom thanked the board members for their support and checking in on her and the department during this very challenging time.

Ms. Odom reported:

- Metro Parks sustained damage to Public Square Park, the Courthouse and Founders Tower during the protest on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Special thanks to Metro General Services for assisting and supporting Metro Parks with repair of damages. Because General Services was already involved in restoration work at the Historic Courthouse there was a vendor on site. This vendor repaired the windows and the elevator at Founders Tower as well as assisting with graffiti abatement and removal. Metro Parks is very appreciative of Metro General Services and the support of the Mayor's Office.

Metro Parks grounds crew provided trash pickup and debris cleanup on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> after the protest and filled a ½ ton truck with what was collected.

There was significant damage to the interior of the courthouse and that is not an area of Metro Parks purview. We are looking forward to all repairs being completed at the courthouse and in the downtown area.

- Metro Council is still working on details of the FY21 budget. Mayor Cooper's recommended budget is on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading tonight and there is to be a substitute budget to be submitted for consideration. It is the goal of the Budget and Finance Committee Chair to have a final budget passed ASAP before the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- Parks facilities opened Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> with limited capacity and modified operations. Some outdoor park facilities remain closed and we will reopen with guidance from the Health Department, Mayor's Office and NRPA best practices when given the ok to do so. Also taking in consideration our limited staff and the ability to regulate and police those areas for continued social distancing protocol.
- Shelby Golf Course will remain closed until the irrigation system is repaired. Procurement process for those repairs is in progress. Damage to this aged system was sustained during the March 3<sup>rd</sup> tornado and course will open upon completion of repairs.
- Metro Parks Summer Enrichment programming through our community center system will be offered virtually, signups began June 1 and programming begins Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Staff is looking forward to Metro Parks first foray into virtual programming and so far, it has proven successful, but there is no replacement for human interaction; however, we are still trying to remain engaged with the community.

**XI. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR (con't.)**

Ms. Odom reported:

- In addition to their regular duties Parks Police are continuing to assist with security at the Fairgrounds with the emergency shelter. This assignment should end in June.
- Wave Country historically opens Memorial Day weekend; hopefully, it should open within the next few weeks. Metro Parks will heed all safety guidelines and expect there will be capacity limitations as well as other safety precautions.

**XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/OPEN ITEMS - none**

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

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Monique Horton Odom, Director

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Dr. Michelle D. Steele, Chairperson