

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

March 3, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee was held on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 12:00 pm in the Centennial Park Boardroom, 2565 Park Plaza, Nashville, TN. Board members present were: Mr. George Anderson, Mr. Stan Fossick, Mr. Charles Sueing and Dr. Jo Ann Brannon. Ms. Christy Smith, Ms. Jenn Garcia and Mr. Greg Adkins were not in attendance.

Staff present were: Assistant Directors: Ms. Monique Odom, Administration and Finance; Mr. Mike Bays, Consolidated Maintenance; Ms. Sally Davis, Community Recreation; Mr. John Holmes, Revenue Producing Facilities; Ms. Shain Dennison, Greenways; Mr. Tim Netsch, Planning and Facilities; and Mr. Jim Hester, Special Events; Capt. Chris Taylor/Park Police; and **Mr. Tom Cross, representing the Metro Legal Department.** Ms. Jackie Jones, Superintendent/Public Information was not in attendance

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2015 APPROVED

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Mr. Sueing, the Board approved the minutes of the board meeting held Tuesday, February 3, 2015 as submitted.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Lisa Spells, representing the Cremona Strings Ensemble, was present to provide the board their annual update of Cremona Strings Ensemble Too and Development Group, Inc. She stated that this organization has been teaching free music lessons which include theory, music history and creating compositions to students on Saturday mornings from 8:00 – 10:00 am in Metro Parks facilities (there are currently a total of 13 members). Ms. Spells explained that this is not a “latch key” program as all instruments are donated and parents are required to stay and assist with set up and tear down of all equipment necessary for class.

The students who were present performed a musical arrangement consisting of 3 selections with expertise. These students performed before the board in 2014 and their development and improvement from the previous year is remarkable. The interaction with the Cremona Strings Ensemble students was enlightening as it was very obvious of their growth and development over the past year especially in the areas of self-confidence and knowledge. Ms. Spells deserves recognition for her dedication to this cause not only because of the discipline shown by her students, but the professionalism of both Ms. Spells and the Cremona Strings organization. Currently this program is offered at the following regional centers: Coleman, East, Hadley and McCabe on Saturday mornings

The board expressed their appreciation to Ms. Spells for the time she gives in providing free music lessons to students and that the commitment she exhibits is a valuable trait to portray to them as well as the community.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

ODESSA KELLY AND ALONZO RHODES REPORTED ON THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM OFFERED BY METRO PARKS

Odessa Kelly, Manager of Napier Recreation Center and Alonzo Rhodes, Manager of Watkins Recreation Center, were present to familiarize the board of the food distribution program offered through Metro Parks Recreation Centers.

Ms. Kelly stated that the food pantry is open Tuesday through Thursday, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, to the community to obtain food boxes and is offered in conjunction with 2nd Harvest. Because of the recent inclement weather she said the center had been averaging 65-75 children daily while providing 307 families with food boxes in 2 days.

Mr. Rhodes has been overseeing the food bank for 5 years with nominal assistance from volunteers. He reported that the children are treated to a hot meal on Wednesdays at the **Kids Cafe** with food provided by 2nd Harvest and a backpack program is also in place which provides snacks for the children to take home for the weekend. There are between 115-125 children who benefit from these programs weekly. He also said that 2nd Harvest provides food for all the banquets held at the center.

VII. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF, NEW EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS

VIII. METRO COUNCIL REFERRALS

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. CONSENT AGENDA

03-15-01

BOARD APPROVES MARCH CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion of Mr. Sueing, seconded by Mr. Fossick, the board approved the consent agenda as submitted.

AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL

- Kids Ultimate Fitness Challenge Centennial Park Sat., March 14, 2015
- TN Kurdish Community Council Warner Park-Kurdish New Year Sat., March 21, 2015
- SE Nashville Easter Egg Event Southeast Regional Park Sat., March 28, 2015
- Community Wide Egg Hunt Bellevue Park Sat., April 4, 2015
- Puppies in the Park! Sevier Park Sun., March 29, 2015
- Runaplooza/Cole Elementary Mill Creek Greenway@Antioch Ctr Sat., April 11, 2015

X. CONSENT AGENDA

03-15-01

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AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL

- Shakespeare's Birthday Event Cumberland Park Sun., April 26, 2015
- East Nashville Farmers Market Wednesdays in Shelby Park May 6 – Oct. 28, 2015
- Katrese Pettiford - wedding Centennial Sunken Garden Fri., May 8, 2015
- Stanton Smith – picnic Two Rivers Park Shelters 2 & 4 Sat., May 16, 2015
- Hope Park Church Bellevue Park-family movie night Fri., May 29, 2015
- Sarah Terranova – wedding Warner Park Steeplechase Sat., June 27, 2015
- Cumberland Pediatric Foundation Centennial Event Shelter-picnic Sun., June 28, 2015
- Bellevue Church of Christ Bellevue Park-concert Wed., July 1, 2015
- Teena Johnson - wedding Centennial Sunken Garden/shelter Fri., July 31, 2015
- Woodbine Pastorial Fellowship Coleman-Back to School event Sat., Aug. 1, 2015
- Hazel Dorsett – birthday party Centennial Event Shelter Sun., Aug. 2, 2015
- Destination Nashville Walk of Fame Park-fitness event Fri., Aug. 28, 2015
- TDEC-Urban Runoff 5k Centennial Park Event Shelter Sat., Aug. 29, 2015
- Zakiya Boyd - wedding Centennial Park Sunken Garden Fri., Sept. 4, 2015
- Autumn Stroter – wedding Cumberland Park Sat., Sept. 12, 2015
- African American Cultural Alliance Hadley Park – festival Sept. 18 – 20, 2015
- Jennifer Digiacoimo-wedding Centennial Art Center Courtyard Sat., Sept. 26, 2015
- Church of the Redeemer Sevier Park-Festival of St. Francis Sat., Oct. 3, 2015
- Steps of Success 5K/1 mile run Shelby Park Special Event Field Sat., Oct. 10, 2015

FUNDRAISING APPROVAL

- Loving Life Inc. 3K walk Centennial Park Sat., June 27, 2015
- Cathedral of Praise Cedar Hill Park-2K Scholars Walk Sat., April 11, 2015
- Shakespeare in the Park Centennial Bandshell(Thurs.-Sun.)Aug. 13 – Sept. 13, 2015

AMPLIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL

- Girls on the Run Nashville -5K East Bank Greenway Sat., May 2, 2015
- Bellevue/Harpeth Chamber Bellevue Park-community picnic Sat., May 16, 2015
- Nashville Peacemakers Hadley Park-awareness event Sat., July 4, 2015
- Layman Lessons Church Shelby Special Event Field-run Sat., July 18, 2015
- Colon Cancer Alliance-run/walk Shelby Park/Riverview Shelter Fri., Aug. 7, 2015
- ANCOP Foundation, Inc. Cane Ridge Park-walk Sat., Aug. 15, 2015
- St. Jude Children's Hospital Warner Park – walk Sat., Sept. 26, 2015
- Food Allergy/Research Warner Park Shelter 5 – walk Sat., Sept. 26, 2015
- MADD walk/race Centennial Park Event Shelter Sun., Oct. 18, 2015

X. CONSENT AGENDA

03-15-01

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ALCOHOL APPROVAL

- RED Music-picnic Church Street Park Wed., May 13, 2015

ALCOHOL AND AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL

- Grace Waugh-wedding Centennial Art Ctr. Courtyard Sat., April 18, 2015
- Marissa Hollingsworth-wedding Centennial Art Ctr. Courtyard Sat., April 25, 2015
- The Recording Academy Cumberland Park-Grammy Party Tues., May 12, 2015
- Haggard/Bowman wedding Centennial Art Ctr. Courtyard Sat., May 16, 2015
- Marquita Moore-wedding Cumberland Park Sat., May 30, 2015
- Shane Sebold-wedding Centennial Art Ctr. Courtyard Sat., Aug. 8, 2015
- Nashville Bar Association Walk of Fame Park – picnic Thurs., Sept. 24, 2015

ALCOHOL, AMPLIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL

- Sound Harvest Music Festival Centennial Park Parthenon Lawn Sat., Oct. 17, 2015

03-15-02

BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF FRIENDS OF BELLS BEND PARK TO HOST AN OUTDOOR VENDOR SHOW ON SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015 IN BELLS BEND PARK

Correspondence submitted by Ms. Sharon Work, representing Friends of Bells Bend Park, requesting permission to host its annual Outdoor Recreation Festival and Expo on Saturday, April 11, 2015 in Bells Bend Park with the following requests was presented to the board:

- Waiver of all fees
- Permission for amplification for music on the back porch
- Permission for selling of goods, with proper permits, by vendors
- Permission for Friends of Bells Bend to sell food and beverages (non-alcoholic)
- Permission for a fitness run and other outdoor fitness competitions.

Upon motion of Mr. Sueing, seconded by Mr. Fossick, the board approved request for amplification with the understanding that the sound not be disruptive to those in the surrounding area and subject to monitoring by park personnel, selling of goods with proper permits, and waiver of the usage fee request as per Park Policy 3000. 28 Fee Waivers and Reductions.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-03

FRIENDS OF KELLYTOWN FORMALLY RECOGNIZED AS A SUPPORT ORGANIZATION OF METRO PARKS

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the Board approved the establishment of the Friends of Kellytown, Inc. as an official volunteer support group to Metro Parks as per Park Policy 3000.31. Mr. Ridley Wills and Mr. Bill Coke, representing Friends of Kellytown, were present and expressed their thanks and appreciation to the board for assistance in preservation of this property for years to come.

03-15-04

BOARD ACCEPTS DONATION OF \$410,918 FROM FRIENDS OF KELLYTOWN

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the board approved the acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$410,918 in cash and/or services from Friends of Kellytown to Metro Parks. This donation is to be used for the purchase, protection and preservation of the Kellytown Property which inhibits Native American remains and artifacts of historical significance. Because this property strategically fits the description of a park and/or greenway, it seems appropriate that it be preserved with markers interpreting the Mississippian Period of its history within the designated site. It has been noted that \$400,000 of this donation was approved by Metro Council at their meeting held December 16, 2014.

03-15-05

BOARD RECEIVES UPDATE ON PROPOSED SPONSORSHIP SIGNAGE FOR RIVERFRONT AMPHITHEATER

Mr. Lynch informed the board the MDHA is scheduled to approve this sponsorship signage agreement on Tuesday, March 10 and then the City will approve. He also stated that this agreement is consistent with other naming ventures. The sponsor of the naming rights will be announced at the end of March with a tentative date of August 2nd scheduled as an open house for the public.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-06

BOARD APPROVES BULLYING POLICY FOR METRO PARKS AND FACILITIES

Ms. Sally Davis and Mr. John Holmes formatted the Bullying Policy for Metro Parks with the assistance from other Metro Departments. Metro Parks will begin enforcing this policy with the Summer Enrichment Program and then with after-school programming. Dr. Brannon mentioned cyber-bullying and Ms. Davis and Mr. Holmes stated that it is extremely difficult to monitor cyber-bullying.

Upon motion of Mr. Sueing, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the board approved the following policy as submitted by Metro Parks' staff.

**METRO PARKS AND RECREATION BULLYING POLICY
(1/12/2015)**

The Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation is committed to providing an environment free from bullying or harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, handicap/disability, sexual orientation, ancestry or gender, including gender identity, expression or appearance. We expect for all patrons to treat each other with civility and respect and not to engage in behavior that is disruptive or violent. Acts of bullying or harassment will not be tolerated.

This policy addresses conduct that takes place in any Metro Park or any Metro Parks facility, at any Parks sponsored activity or any official event sanctioned by Parks. It is the responsibility of the Director of Parks or their designee to ensure that this policy is being implemented. It is the Director's responsibility to ensure that all staff is trained on the policy, reporting procedures, and bullying and harassment prevention techniques. Information about disciplinary consequences will be published annually in the Metro Parks Patron Code of Conduct.

Definition(s):

Bullying

Conduct that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Act directed at one or more individuals that is intended to harm or embarrass.
- Repeated over time.
- Involves an imbalance of physical, emotional or social power.

Bullying may involve, but is not limited to, the following: unwanted teasing, threatening, intimidating behavior, physical bullying, theft, sexual, religious or racial harassment and public humiliation.

Harassment

Conduct that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Act directed at one or more individual(s), that is received as harmful or embarrassing;
- Substantially interferes with recreational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more individuals;
- Substantially affects the ability of an individual to participate in or benefit from any programs or activities by placing the individual in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing emotional distress;
- Based on an individual's actual or perceived distinguishing characteristics or is based on an association with another person who has or is perceived to have any distinguishing characteristics;
- Repeated over time and is severe, persistent and pervasive;
- Causes mental duress or psychological trauma to the bullied.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-06 (con't.)

BOARD APPROVES BULLYING POLICY FOR METRO PARKS AND FACILITIES

Upon motion of Mr. Sueing, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the board approved the following policy as submitted by Metro Parks' staff.

Reporting Instances of Bullying or Harassment

Park policy requires any park employee with knowledge of bullying to report it the Parks Director/Designee. All other individuals with knowledge of bullying should report to the appropriate Facility Manager, Park Police Officer or Parks Director/Designee. Any form of notification is appropriate.

Prohibition of Reprisal, Retaliation and False Accusations

The Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation prohibits reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against any person who witnesses and/or reports an act of bullying and harassment. The consequence and appropriate remedial action for a person who engages in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation shall be determined by the Director of Parks and Recreation and/or designee after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstance of the act, in accordance with case law and board policies and procedures.

Any act of retaliation, reprisal, or false accusation against any person who reports bullying and harassment will not be tolerated. Any patron who engages in the act of retaliation, reprisal, or who falsely accuses another shall be subjected to consequence and appropriate remedial action. In cases where any state or Federal Law has allegedly been violated; the local law enforcement agency shall be notified.

03-15-07

BOARD APPROVES RATE INCREASE AT VINNYLINKS GOLF COURSE

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Dr. Brannon, the board approved the following rate increase at VinnyLinks Golf Course.

9 holes for Adults	\$6.00 increased to \$7.00
9 holes for Youth	\$3.00 increased to \$4.00
Driving Range-bucket of balls	\$4.00 increased to \$5.00

Please note that this fee increase request is the first in 15 years and the intent is to use the increase to fund an additional person to cover longer operating hours. Operating hours will be changed to 7:00 am to sunset and will provide an additional 14 – 21 hours of public access per week. (Operating hours in 2014 were 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.)

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-08

**BOARD DEFERS THE AMENDMENT OF PARK POLICY 3000.1 “NAMING OF PARKS”
TO THE APRIL MEETING**

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Mr. Sueing, the board deferred the amendment of Park Policy 3000.1 “Naming of Parks” to the April board meeting (requested amendments are highlighted in another color).

3000 POLICIES

3000.1 NAMING OF PARKS (amended September 12, 2006)

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to establish a systematic and consistent approach for the official naming of parks, recreational areas and facilities.

II. Objectives:

- Ensure that parks, recreational areas and facilities are easily identified and located.
- Ensure that names given to parks, recreational areas and facilities are consistent with the values and character of the area or neighborhood served.
- Encourage public participation in the naming of parks, recreation areas and facilities.

III. Definition:

Parks, recreational areas and facilities – includes all property assets under the City’s ownership and under the control of the Parks Department including buildings, structures, open spaces, public parks, natural areas, wetlands, environmental habitats and land.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-08(con't.)

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3000 POLICIES

3000.1 NAMING OF PARKS (amended September 12, 2006)

IV. Criteria:

The policy of the Parks Department is to name parks, recreation areas and facilities through an adopted process utilizing established criteria emphasizing community values and character, local history, geography, environmental, civics and service unique to the City of Nashville.

A. The following criteria shall be used in determining the appropriateness of the naming designation:

1. Geographic location (neighborhood, significant areas, etc.)
2. Natural features
3. A person (non-living) or place of historical or cultural significance
4. A person (non-living), group, or feature particularly identified with the land or facility
5. A living person who was employed by The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for at least 30 years and whose work contributed substantially to the improvement of the Metropolitan Government's parks, recreation areas or other facilities.

B. The process to name parks, recreation areas and/or facilities should begin within 12 months after the City has acquired title to the land and/or formally accepted the gift. Provided, however, that the process for naming a park, recreation area or other facility under section 3000.1(IV)(A)(5) may be started at any time.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-08(con't.)

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3000 POLICIES

3000.1 NAMING OF PARKS (amended September 12, 2006)

IV. Criteria:

- C. Conditions of property donation as agreed upon by the donor and the City shall be honored regarding the naming of the parks, recreation areas and facilities subject to these adopted policies.
- D. Names that are similar to existing parks, properties or facilities in the City system (or other systems in the Metro area) should not be considered in order to minimize confusion.
- E. In the case of parks where only geographic, conceptual or other generic names exist or have been proposed, and when such names are not of special historical or geographical significance to the neighborhood; nominations may be made to name a park or park facility for a local or community leader (non-living).

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-08(con't.)

**BOARD DEFERS THE AMENDMENT OF PARK POLICY 3000.1 "NAMING OF PARKS"
TO THE APRIL MEETING**

Upon motion of Mr. Fossick, seconded by Mr. Sueing, the board deferred the amendment of Park Policy 3000.1 "Naming of Parks" to the April board meeting (requested amendments are highlighted in another color).

3000 POLICIES

3000.1 NAMING OF PARKS (amended September 12, 2006)

IV. Criteria:

- F. When park property is named for an individual, this action in no way gives the family members naming rights over other features on the property. Features within the facility or on the property will remain eligible for naming without the consent of the individual or family members for which the property is currently named. This matter will be clearly outlined in the written agreement at the time of the naming.
- G. Nominations will be accepted and considered only when received from community-based organizations which have been in existence a minimum of three years, e.g. advisory councils, neighborhood associations, youth service agencies, churches, elected and/or appointed bodies, etc. The nominating organization will be required to provide information about its history. A formal vote of the organization's executive board must be taken, and the family of the honoree must agree with the proposed recognition.

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03-15-08(con't.)

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3000 POLICIES

3000.1 NAMING OF PARKS (amended September 12, 2006)

IV. Criteria:

- H. Nominations will not be accepted from any individual person including elected officials. The only exception to this policy is when a significant financial contribution is made and the naming is a condition of the gift.
- I. The Department will not consider a naming request if any of the following conditions are present:
 - 1. Duplicates the name of another park or park feature;
 - 2. Endorses or advocates religion or a specific religious belief;
 - 3. Has obscene connotations; or
 - 4. Demeans, intimidates or maliciously portrays any racial and ethnic group.
- J. Requests will not be considered when submitted by an individual or a group for self-nomination. The only exception to this policy is when a significant financial contribution is made and the naming is a condition of the gift.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-08(con't.)

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3000 POLICIES

3000.1 NAMING OF PARKS (amended September 12, 2006)

IV. Criteria:

- K. When new park property is proposed, acquired or constructed, the property may be given a temporary, unofficial name until a formal petition is submitted by a community based group on the basis of the criteria and procedures outlined in this policy. The temporary name will be designated by the Parks Department for the purpose of administration and accounting.
- L. No park once named may ever be changed.
- M. All community centers will retain the name of the park in which they are located.

V. Procedure:

Naming of Parks, Recreation Areas and Facilities

1. A request for naming of a park, recreational area or facility shall be submitted in writing to the Parks Board through the Parks and Recreation Department

XI. NEW BUSINESS

03-15-08(con't.)

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3000 POLICIES

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V. Procedure:

2. Those submitting a naming request should show how the proposed name is consistent with the criteria stated in this policy. When naming after a person or persons, the application will describe the contributions to the City. Written documentation of approval by next of kin to be honored (if available/possible) is required as part of the proposal. Staff will review the proposal for adherence to the stated criteria and authentication of statements relative to contributions in the case of an individual before forwarding to the Parks Board.
3. If the request is incomplete, staff will contact the applicant, in writing, and provide them with the opportunity to resubmit a revised request.
4. The Parks Board will offer the opportunity for public input on the proposed naming.
5. The Parks Board can initiate the naming process whenever deemed necessary and/or in the best interest of the City.
6. In the absence of any naming requests, the Parks Board shall adhere to criteria stated in this policy in recommendation of name.

XII. CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Mr. Tim Netsch presented his monthly update and stated that the first public meeting regarding the new Madison Regional Center was held February 26th with good attendance and the first public meeting for the Smith Springs Center will be held on Thursday, March 5th. He also said that construction bids are in for Fort Nashborough. The inclement weather of February has been the cause of loss construction time with regard to on-going projects.

XIII. UPCOMING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Mr. Jim Hester presented the special activities and events schedule for March in Ms. Jackie Jones absence. Highlights included:

Southern Premier Swim Meet	March 6	Centennial Sportsplex
Free Form Friday	March 6	Centennial Black Box
Voices of Nashville	March 6-22	Looby Theater
Warner Golf Clubhouse opening	March 7	Warner Golf Course
Arbor Day Celebration	March 12	Centennial Park
Richland Creek Cleanup	March 14	McCabe Park

XIV. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Lynch informed the board that a departmental budget meeting with the Metro Finance Department is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10th and the Mayor's Budget Hearing is set for Tuesday, March 31st at 2:00 pm. Budget is to be submitted at a 3% reduction. He also stated that four major projects will be completed and open summer 2015. Summer 2015 is the beginning of fiscal year 2015-16 and these projects will not be operational without increased funding. Budget modification has been submitted to take care of new facilities; however, because of the strong maintenance component Metro Parks will need additional resources to protect and maintain.

Greer Stadium will also be an upcoming topic with regard to changing venue of the facility. We have had numerous use requests (i.e. rodeos, music festival, soccer fields, etc.) and once the current tenants have vacated entirely we will secure it for safety and begin the process of hosting community meetings to determine the public's wants and/or needs.

XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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