

# **METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

## **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**July 2, 2013**

A meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2013 at 12:00 pm in the Centennial Park Boardroom, 2565 Park Plaza, Nashville, TN. Board members present were: Mr. George Anderson, Mr. Stan Fossick, Ms. Elizabeth Chase, Ms. Juliana Ospina-Cano, Dr. Jo Ann Brannon and Mr. Phil Ponder. Mr. Charles McTorry was not in attendance.

Staff present were: Assistant Directors: Mr. Mike Bays, Consolidated Maintenance; Mr. Paul Widman, Recreation; Special Projects Managers: Ms. Rebecca Ratz in Mr. Tim Netsch's absence, Special Projects Manager-Planning/Facilities; Ms. Shain Dennison, Greenways; and Mr. Jim Hester, Special Events; Superintendents: Ms. Monique Odom, Administration and Finance and Ms. Jackie Jones, Public Information; Sgt. Bryan Irvin in Capt. Chris Taylor's absence, Park Police and **Mr. Ted Morrissey, representing the Metro Legal Department.**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 4, 2013 APPROVED**

Upon motion of Ms. Chase, seconded by Mr. Ponder, the Board approved the minutes of the board meetings held Tuesday, June 4, 2013 as submitted.

#### **VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Shari Barkin, representing the Nashville Collaborative, was present to provide an update on the work of the Nashville Collaborative based in the Recreation Division of Metro Parks.

##### **The Nashville Collaborative:**

A Partnership between Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt and Metro Parks/Recreation to develop and test community-based, family-centered Programs that measurably reduce childhood obesity

- Metro Parks Board approval in May 2008
- Official launch on June 28, 2008
- 7 grants obtained to test programs:
  - Family-based
  - Community-centered
  - Measureable
  - Sustainable

Childhood Obesity is a growing epidemic among children that impacts health not only in childhood, but into adulthood.

- In 2000, 15% of children and adolescents, ages 6-19 years of age, were overweight-up from 5% in 1970.
- Preschoolers who were overweight are 5x more likely to be overweight as adolescents.

**VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

**The Nashville Collaborative (con't.):**

- Overweight adolescents have a 70% risk of becoming overweight or obese adults.
- Disproportionate effect of childhood obesity on minorities age 2-5 years:

4- 5%	White
12-15%	African-American
24-27%	Latino

Nashville Collaborative Project Achievements: 7 grant-funded projects (see below), AAP Achievement Award

**Salud con la Familia (Health with the Family)** examined a family-based, community centered intervention to prevent and/or treat obesity for Latino parent-preschool child pairs. One hundred Latino families with preschool-age children were enrolled in 12 week sessions. The results of this program stated that 41% of Latino preschoolers started overweight and the intervention group was 2x as likely to change their weight category to normal in 3 months.

**Salud America** evaluated the impact of a community engaged research study (Salud con la Familia) on Latino family's use of a recreation center for routine physical activity (134 families surveyed) one year after specific programming ended.

**Salud America!**  
**Results: Use of Recreation Center**

Survey Results	Unexposed (n=65)	Exposed (n=66)
<b>Adult Use (%)</b>		
Once a month or less	66.15	34.85
More than once a month	33.85	65.15
<b>Adult Use With Child (%)</b>		
Once a month or less	75.38	37.88
More than once a month	24.62	62.12

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

**VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

**The Nashville Collaborative (con't.):**

**Coleman Afterschool Program** was formed to see if children in parks based after-school programs were more active than children in usual after-school programs. One hundred school age children were enrolled with change measured over 3 months.

- Groups start equally active and after 3 months children in the parks based program were spending 155 more time in moderate-vigorous physical activity.

Results:

- Children are as active as their friends, but they do not choose their friends based on how active they are.
- Some children became either more active; others became less active, as they assimilated to the activity level of their peers.
- Sedentary children are just as popular as active children.
- Friendships influence children's activity levels at 5-12 years of age.

Tips:

- Get groups of friends to be active together and embed sedentary children into groups of active children.

**Madre Sana, Bebe Sano (Healthy Mother, Healthy Baby)** was formed to support healthy postpartum weight loss in women and appropriate infant feeding through new social network building in a community center.

- Enrolled 40 first time pregnant Latinas.
- The program has been completed and analysis is currently underway with the Mother's pregnancy weight and baby weight being pulled from charts.

**CASTLES at Hadley Park** was formed to implement a program developed by the Vanderbilt Center for Health Services and Metro Parks, using Metro Parks employees and college students to provide afterschool programming to promote physical activity in North Nashville.

- Enrolled 100 school age children.
- Program completed with analysis underway.

**Madre Sana, Embarazo Sano (Healthy Mother, Healthy Pregnancy)** was formed to support healthy weight gain for Latinas during pregnancy through a social network building program based in the community center.

- Enrolled 140 pregnant women of various racial/ethnic identities.
- Program completed with analysis underway.

## VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

### The Nashville Collaborative (con't.):

**GROW (Growing Right Onto Wellness)** was formed to develop and test a multi-ethnic, community based, family centered healthy lifestyle intervention with 600 families with preschool age children over the age of 3 years. Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, working with Metro Parks and Recreation was awarded \$12 million dollars to prevent childhood obesity over 7 years.

- The Grow Timeline (August 2010 – August 2017)

October – June 2010	Community Insight	Focus Groups/Interview
July - Dec 2011	Practice/Preparation	6 month Pilot
Aug 2012 – Dec 2016	Full Intervention Trial	3 year GROW Program

Goals of **GROW**:

#### INDIVIDUAL

- Instill healthy lifestyle changes
- Improve body mass index (BMI) trajectories
- Assess influence of genetic risk factors

#### FAMILY

- View the effects of parental health changes upon children.

#### COMMUNITY

- Develop social connections among participant families
- Assess how the program affects center use/program needs

#### BROADER IMPACT

- Serve as an example of a successful pediatric obesity prevention program to export to other communities.

## VII. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF, NEW EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS

## VIII. METRO COUNCIL REFERRALS

Councilmember Karen Johnson was in attendance and introduced the following members of the Una Recreation Organization:

Marcus Hardison - Vice President  
Scott Harrison - Secretary  
Tracy Kinslow - Advisory Board Member

This group was in attendance to ask that Metro Parks insure that the facilities are safe and upgraded for the users of the park.

**VIII. METRO COUNCIL REFERRALS (con't.)**

Mr. Lynch stated that Una Park has been in existence for approximately 50 years, but did not become a Metro facility until the late 1990's. He is aware that most issues are with the football stadium and seating. Seating was replaced as needed, but replacement boards were sized incorrectly; however, Mr. Lynch assured the group that improvements will be made before the 2013 season in order to insure safety for spectators.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

**05-13-02**

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF THE WARNER PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION TO CONSTRUCT A LIGHTNING SHELTER ON PERCY WARNER GOLF COURSE**

With recommendation from the board's acquisition committee and upon motion of Mr. Ponder, seconded by Ms. Chase, the Board approved request by Bill Griffin, representing the Warner Park Improvement Association, to construct a lightning shelter on Percy Warner Golf Course.

**05-13-03**

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST TO NAME THE PARK LOCATED ON LEASED PROPERTY AT GALE LANE AND I-440 RIGHT OF WAY THE GALE LANE COMMUNITY PARK**

With recommendation from the board's naming committee and upon motion of Ms. Chase, seconded by Mr. Ponder, the Board approved request to name the park located on leased property at Gale Lane and I-440 right of way the ***Gale Lane Community Park***.

The board's naming committee carefully considered the following suggestions from 3 individual sources in regard to naming this area:

***George W. Carver Walking Trail at Sunnyside*** submitted by Mr. Sizwe Herring representing Earth Matters Tennessee and Mr. Kwame Lillard representing the African American Cultural Alliance. This site previously was utilized as a community garden and organic composting site and named in memory of Dr. Carver, an agricultural chemist, theologian, artist and teacher. This area is also located in the Sunnyside Citizens community thereby prompting the use of Sunnyside in the suggested name of the area.

***The Legends Walking Trails*** submitted by Councilmember Sandra Moore. Councilmember Moore suggested naming the trails "The Legends Walking Trails" to combine the elements of health and history by providing a healthier way of living and to recognize all of the legends who have contributed to the success of District 17.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

05-13-03 (con't.)

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST TO NAME THE PARK LOCATED ON  
LEASED PROPERTY AT GALE LANE AND I-440 RIGHT OF WAY  
THE GALE LANE COMMUNITY PARK**

*Gale Lane Community Park and Walking Trail* by Ms. Mary Sanford and others listed on a submitted petition. This name was suggested because of the rich history of the area and the many constituents over the years who have strived to make the area viable, safe and beneficial for everyone.

06-13-05

**BOARD APPROVES STAFF REQUEST FOR SWING HIGHER PLAYGROUNDS  
TO FUND, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT A PLAYGROUND IN DOUGLAS PARK**

With recommendation from the board's acquisition committee and upon motion of Mr. Ponder, seconded by Mr. Fossick, the Board unanimously approved request of Ms. Rebecca Ratz, representing Metro Parks Planning and Facilities Division, requesting consideration of request of Swing Higher Playgrounds to fund, design and construct a playground in Douglas Park. (Parks' Planning staff will work with said company during the design/construction process).

06-13-06

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF STAFF FOR THE ACQUISITION AND/OR  
ACCEPTANCE OF PROPERTIES FOR USE AS OPEN SPACE  
OR GREENWAY TRAILS**

With recommendation from the board's acquisition committee and upon motion of Mr. Ponder, seconded by Mr. Fossick, the Board approved the following:

**\*Approval of acquisition of approximately 104.61 acres, map and parcel no. 00400042000, as an addition to Cedar Hill Park.** Property owner offers bargain sale of the tract immediately adjacent to Cedar Hill Park for \$675,000, half of its appraised value. The property is suitable for mountain biking trails and hiking trails and provides direct connection to a large residential area. The area is underserved in park acreage by 189 acres.

**\*Acceptance of .35 acre easement, map and parcel no. 06903007100, for trail connection on the Whites Creek Greenway.** Metro Parks approached landowner to grant a trail easement that will connect a Whites Creek Greenway trailhead to be constructed on flood buyout property on West Hamilton Road to a picnic shelter in Mullins Park. Easement provides that in consideration of the granting of the easement Metro agrees to pave grantor's driveway.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

**06-13-06 (con't.)**

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF STAFF FOR THE ACQUISITION AND/OR  
ACCEPTANCE OF PROPERTIES FOR USE AS OPEN SPACE  
OR GREENWAY TRAILS**

**\*Acceptance of donation of Lot 2 of Dollar General SP and a Greenway Conservation easement to correct the recorded final plat, for use as a trail head and greenway trail.** As part of the development of the site for the Dollar General store on McCrory Creek at Stewarts Ferry Pike, property owner offered to provide a donation in fee simple of Lot 2 for future trail development and through a greenway conservation easement to provide future greenway trail area as well as an access easement through the store's parking and access drive.

**06-13-07**

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF STAFF FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GAZEBO  
OR PICNIC SHELTER WITH AN AFFIXED MEMORIAL PLAQUE IN MEMORY OF  
PAUL JOHNSON TO BE LOCATED ON THE MILL CREEK GREENWAY**

With recommendation from the board's acquisition committee and upon motion of Mr. Ponder, seconded by Ms. Chase, the Board approved request of Ms. Shain Dennison, representing Metro Parks Greenways/Open Space Division, to accept donation of a gazebo or picnic shelter to include a memorial plaque in memory of Paul Johnson on the Mill Creek Greenway.

The donors, SAF Fred Yazdian Properties and Sugar Valley GP, who previously donated 16 acres on Mill Creek at 0 Culbertson Drive, requested permission to provide a gazebo or picnic shelter in memory of Paul Johnson who originally owned the land that was donated, including a memorial plaque, with Metro Parks Director to review and approve plaque text.

**X. CONSENT AGENDA**

**07-13-01**

**BOARD APPROVES JULY CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL**

- |                              |  |                         |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| • Merry Street Church of God | Centennial Event Shelter youth service/concert | Friday, July 12, 2013   |
| • Togolese Assc. of Georgia  | Centennial Event Shelter/picnic                | Sunday, July 14, 2013   |
| • Vanity Bonner/wedding      | Centennial Sunken Garden                       | Saturday, Aug. 24, 2013 |
| • Hannah Bates/wedding       | Centennial Rose Arbor                          | Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013  |
| • Mindy Caudell/party        | Centennial Event Shelter                       | Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013 |

**X. CONSENT AGENDA**

**07-13-01 (con't.)**

**BOARD APPROVES JULY CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL**

- Nashville British Car Club Centennial Park Lawn Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013
- Provision International Cumberland Park/worship event Saturday, July 13, 2013
- Urban Soul Café Cumberland Park/worship event Saturday, Aug. 10, 2013
- Tamesha George/wedding Cumberland Park Friday, April 4, 2014
- Armechie Pugh/picnic Shelby Park/Riverview Saturday, July 27, 2013
- Michael Fair/wedding Warner Park Allee Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013
- Donna Payton/picnic Warner Park Saturday, July 20, 2013

**AMPLIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- March of Dimes/walk Centennial Sunday, April 20, 2014
- Hope Center/outreach Sevier Park Saturday, Aug. 31, 2013
- Bridge Crossers/walk Warner Park Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013

**ALCOHOL AND FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- 12 South Winter Warmer Sevier Park Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013

**ALCOHOL AND AMPLIFICATION APPROVAL**

- Rogers Group/Corp.event Centennial Event Shelter Friday, Sept. 6, 2013
- Chad Bayes/wedding Centennial Art Center Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013
- Kara Jackson/wedding Centennial Event Shelter Friday, Oct. 11, 2013
- Sandy Hunt/wedding Centennial Art Center Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013
- Paige Caldwell/wedding Cumberland Park Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013
- Premier Events/festival Cumberland Park Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013
- Kathleen Hardesty Cumberland Park/wedding Saturday, May 31, 2014

**FUNDRAISING APPROVAL**

- Angelman Syndrome Fnd. Centennial Park/walk Saturday, May 17, 2014
- Mary Kay Corporation Mill Creek Greenway/walk-run Saturday, Oct. 26, 2013



**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**07-13-02**

**BOARD AFFIRMS REAPPOINTMENT OF PHIL PONDER AS A MEMBER OF THE PARK BOARD REPRESENTING THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Board unanimously affirmed the reappointment of Mr. Phil Ponder as a member of the Park Board representing the Metro Planning Commission effective May 23, 2013. (Mr. Ponder's term will expire May 31, 2014.)

**07-13-03**

**MS. ANGIE HENDERSON REPRESENTING THE BELLE MEADE HIGHLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ADDRESSES THE BOARD WITH REGARD TO PERCY WARNER PARK**

Ms. Angie Emery Henderson, President of the Belle Meade Highlands Neighborhood Association (BMHNA), was present to address the Board regarding Percy Warner Park.

Ms. Henderson stated that the Belle Meade Highlands (147 homes) bears a significant traffic burden for patrons of Percy Warner Park and Cheekwood and stated that visitorship for the park and Cheekwood continues to grow with Cheekwood having a 100% increase in visitors in 2010 over 2009. She also stated that the proposed mountain bike trails will draw bikers from the mid-state adding to additional traffic in the area. James Hunt, Mayor of Belle Meade, was also in attendance and stated that other stakeholders were also responsible for traffic problems in this area, not just Metro Parks and Cheekwood.

Ms. Henderson reported that the neighbors only learned of the mountain bike trails and the larger parking area designated for Percy Warner Golf Course (to accommodate mountain bikers, golfing patrons and runners/walkers who utilize Percy Warner Park) upon receipt of a BZA notice regarding a materials variance for a parking area on Chickering Road. The parking area, along with the "LIGHT" exhibit at Cheekwood, will create daily traffic concerns for the neighborhood and BMHNA feel that their wishes should be heard by the board. They requested consideration of the following:

- Modifying construction plans for a portion of the mountain bike trails so as not to preclude the possibility of a new Highway 100 entrance for the mountain bike trails, the Percy Warner Golf Course and Cheekwood along and parallel to the Park's northern most boundary. With Cheekwood undergoing comprehensive master planning and with the Park Board's permission, master planners for both Cheekwood and Metro Parks consider the viability of said option and weigh that with input from Public Works and Metro Planning against the viability of continued exclusive access through the Belle Meade Highlands Neighborhood.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**07-13-03 (con't.)**

**MS. ANGIE HENDERSON REPRESENTING THE BELLE MEADE HIGHLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ADDRESSES THE BOARD WITH REGARD TO PERCY WARNER PARK**

- Modify construction plans to remove the paved path with will connect the Percy Warner Golf Course's bigger parking lot to the Parks' loop road. The BMHNA has concerns with the planned closure of the Page Road parking area at the Park's Belle Meade entrance becoming the preferred alternate location for park patrons to park their vehicles increasing early morning traffic in their neighborhood.

Ms. Henderson also asked that construction of the mountain bike trails be delayed, but Mr. Lynch stated that the mountain bikers have been waiting long enough and construction would begin in 2 weeks. Therefore, after much discussion between Ms. Henderson; Ms. Offenbach, Director of Cheekwood; Mr. Lynch and Parks Board members, it was determined that Parks staff will conduct a traffic study and report back to Ms. Henderson at its completion.

**07-13-04**

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF STAFF FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY ON DELRAY DRIVE AS PART OF THE RICHLAND CREEK GREENWAY**

With recommendation from the board's acquisition committee and upon motion of Mr. Ponder, seconded by Mr. Fossick, the Board approved the following request of Ms. Shain Dennison, representing Metro Parks Greenways/Open Space Division, for acquisition of .4 acres located at 0 Delray Drive, Map 091-10-0, Parcel 360.00 for the Richland Creek Greenway.

Metro Water Services requested Metro Parks acquire this floodway parcel for the Richland Creek Greenway and future connectivity which was recently sold at a tax sale auction. The purchase price is \$700.00, from existing Richland Creek Greenway funds and the owner has signed an option agreement.

**07-13-05**

**METRO PARKS 2013-14 DEPARTMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,355,700 APPROVED BY METRO COUNCIL**

Monique Odom presented Metro Parks 2013-14 *Departmental Operating Budget* in the amount of **\$32,355,700**, as approved by the Metropolitan Council, to the Parks Board. She stated that there is a 1.8% overall increase to the 2013-14 budget, with an actual increase of \$870,000 in **Operations**. Major projects in this budget year include the opening/staffing of Sevier and Paradise Ridge Recreation Centers, expansion of the Sportsplex Fitness Center and overseeing concessions at Wave Country beginning May 2014.

07-13-05

**METRO PARKS 2013-14 DEPARTMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET  
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,355,700 APPROVED BY METRO COUNCIL**

Ms. Odom stated that personnel costs are responsible for the bulk of Parks' expenses. She also explained that **Internal Service Fees** are non-discretionary and responsible for 7% or 2.1 million, expenses in **Other** are 1.6 million, and **Utility** costs are 3.5 million. Also, 45 million dollars was appropriated in the Capital Improvements Budget with 40 million to Parks and 5 million to the Nashville Zoo (Zoo is located on park property). Mr. Lynch and the Board thanked Ms. Odom for her diligence and success in managing Metro Parks' budget.

**XII. UPCOMING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS – Public Information Staff**

Ms. Jackie Jones distributed information regarding the upcoming events in Metro Parks:

- **Paul Lancaster June 15 –Oct. 15, 2013**                      **Parthenon**
- **Fun Club                      July 9 & 16, 2013**                      **Tennis Ctr.**
- **Summer Camp July 8-12 & 15-19, 2013**                      **Tennis Ctr.**

**XIII. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Lynch made the Board aware of a story which appeared in the City Paper on June 29 regarding a park police officer and stated that all charges are civil service issues and will be addressed by the Metro Police Department and Metro Human Resources. He also explained that in 2004 Metro Parks and the Metro Police Department entered into a MOU which assigned a Metro Police Captain to oversee park police officers. This MOU holds park police officers at a higher standard than a typical Metro employee and requires park police officers to adhere to all rules and regulations of the Metro Police Department.

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

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

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**Thomas M. Lynch, Director**

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**George Anderson, Chairperson**