

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

December 2, 2008

A meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at 1:30 pm in the Centennial Park Boardroom, 2565 Park Plaza, Nashville, TN. Board members present were: Mr. Stan Fossick, Mr. Lamont Carter, Mr. James Lawson, Ms. Ivanetta Davis Samuels, Ms. Tonya Jones and Ms. Karen Johnson. Justice A. A. Birch, Jr. was not in attendance.

Staff present were: Assistant Directors: Mr. James Gray/Finance and Administration, Mr. Mike Bays/Consolidated Maintenance, Mr. Paul Widman/Recreation, Tommy Lynch, Assistant Director of Parks/Special Services; Ms. Jackie Jones, Superintendent of Community Affairs; Mr. Bob Parrish, Superintendent of Resource Management; Ms. Shain Dennison, Superintendent of Greenways Development; Lt. George Mitchell for Captain Rich Foley, Park Police and **Ms. Theresa Costonis, Metro Government Legal Counsel**. Mr. Curt Garrigan, Assistant Director /Planning and Facilities was not in attendance.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 4, 2008 APPROVED

Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Lawson, the Board approved the minutes of the board meeting held Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

MR. WARNER BASS UPDATES BOARD ON THE HILL PROPERTY

Mr. Warner Bass, representing Friends of Warner Parks, was present to update board on the capital campaign for the Hill property. Mr. Bass indicated that phase 1 of land acquisition adjacent to the Warner Parks was completed in 2007 with the purchase of 129.36 acres for 5 million dollars. The largest cave within Davidson County is located on this property.

FOWP are now raising funds to purchase the Hill tract of land as phase 2 of land acquisition. There are 322 acres in this tract and upon the development of a forestry plan an old growth forest (140 – 200 acres) was identified within the property. Mr. Bass stated that rarely do you see an old growth forest of this size near a downtown area and if acquired, this old growth forest will be the largest known forest of its kind within a park.

The Hill family has reduced the price and at this time FOWP has 8.5 million in commitments and actual donations, but 4 million is still needed. Once the property has been purchased, FOWP will turn the acreage over to Metro Parks. Mr. Bass indicated that Mayor Dean has endorsed this idea along with the green ribbon committee and fully support including this old growth forest in the Metro Parks system to enhance the greening of Nashville.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

MR. WARNER BASS UPDATES BOARD ON THE HILL PROPERTY

Therefore, Mr. Bass had three requests:

1. Parks' Board to schedule visit to the area soon.
2. Each board member support the campaign.
3. Encourage fundraising.

Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Ms. Johnson, the board endorsed the request as presented by Mr. Bass.

VII. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF, NEW EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

10-08-10

REQUEST TO NAME THE IROQUOIS SOCIETY PAVILION LOCATED AT THE STEEPLECHASE SITE IN PERCY WARNER PARK THE BALFOUR BEATTY IROQUOIS SOCIETY PAVILION DEFERRED TO MARCH 2009 MEETING

Mr. John Sparks representing Ms. Brenda Black, Director of Community Development for the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, was present to request permission from the board to name the Iroquois Society Pavilion located at the Steeplechase site in Percy Warner Park "The Balfour Beatty Iroquois Society Pavilion"

A committee of all board members met preceding board meeting and made the recommendation to defer this request for 3 meetings to allow the full body of the board and Teri Costonis, Metro Legal representative, to review current policy. Justice Birch also asked that Ms. Costonis draft an outline to assist the committee with policy amendment/development. This request is deferred until the March 2009 meeting.

11-08-04

BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF CHRIS DAWSON TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDS GROUP FOR PARMER PARK

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Ms. Johnson, the board approved request to establish the Friends of Parmer Park as an official volunteer support group to Metro Parks as recommended by committee. Mr. Lawson advised that a strong message is to be sent to petitioning friends groups stating that the creation of these groups are to support a park while working under the direction of the Metro Parks department.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

11-08-05

**BOARD DEFERS REQUEST OF THE METRO TRANSIT AUTHORITY
TO ESTABLISH A PARK AND RIDE FACILITY IN RICHLAND PARK**

Mr. Eric Haga, representing Nashville MTA, by email asked the board to defer his request to consider the use of the parking area around Richland Park as a Park and Ride facility until the January 2009 meeting. Mr. Haga talked with Councilmember Holleman and because of the McCabe/Richland Park Master Plan have decided to meet with the area neighborhood group with regard to the park and ride concept.

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Carter, the board deferred this request until January 2009.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA:

12-08-01

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN LIVER FOUNDATION
MID SOUTH CHAPTER FOR AMPLIFICATION DURING THE LIVER LIFE 5K WALK
TO BE HELD IN PERCY WARNER PARK ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2009**

An application submitted by Ms. Kristy Reuter, representing the American Liver Foundation-Mid South Chapter, requesting permission for amplification during the Liver Life 5k Walk on Saturday, April 4, 2008, 8:30 – 11:00 am, in Percy Warner Park at the Steeplechase Grandstand was presented to the board.

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Carter, the board approved this 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.

12-08-02

**BOARD GRANTS PERMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS TO
RENEW THEIR PERMIT FOR FACILITY USE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2009**

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board granted approval of the following organizations to renew Permit for Facility Use for a period of one year if they are in compliance with requirements of the permit.

Cane Ridge Community Club-building in Cane Ridge Park
Charles Davis Foundation-former Ted Rhodes Clubhouse
Charlotte Park Little League-Charlotte Park ballfields
Cougar Baseball Club-GNABA-1 ballfield-William Pitts Park

IX. CONSENT AGENDA:

12-08-02 (con't.)

BOARD GRANTS PERMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS TO RENEW THEIR PERMIT FOR FACILITY USE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2009

Dixieland BMX-BMX Track-Hamilton Creek Park
Flatrock Vols Youth Football League-Cane Ridge Park
Hadley Park Tennis Club-Hadley Park Tennis Center
Hadley Park Junior Development Tennis Program-Hadley Park Tennis Center
Harpeth Youth Soccer – Harpeth River Park Soccer Complex
Jess Neely Junior Athletic League – 3 youth athletic fields in Shelby Park
Joelton Community Club-Joelton Community Park
Madison Titans Youth Football-football field-Stratton Elementary
Metropolitan Action Commission-Dudley Community Center
Nashville Amateur Baseball Association-Seven Oaks Baseball Field
Nashville Amateur Radio Club-Corps of Engineers Bldg/Lock II Park
Nashville Aquatic Club-Centennial Sportsplex Aquatic Center
Nashville Girls Softball League-Boguskie Field/Shelby Park
Nashville Metros-Ezell Park Soccer Field
Nashville Old Timers Baseball Association-Shelby Park Baseball Field
Nashville Sports League – Paragon Mills Softball Field
Nashville Youth Soccer League-Heartland Park Soccer Complex
Seven Oaks Baseball Association-2 youth ballfields-Seven Oaks Park
Stones River Woman's Club-Two Rivers Mansion
Una Recreation Center, Inc.-youth football fields-Una Park
West Nashville Little League-3 youth ballfields-West Park
West Nashville Sports League- youth baseball and softball fields – Warner Park

12-08-03

BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF THE DIVISION OF RECREATION, CULTURE AND WELLNESS DIVISION FOR GRANT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE ARTS COMMISSION TO A YEAR OF FREE BIG BAND DANCES FOR THE PUBLIC

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board approved application and ultimate acceptance of grant funding from the Tennessee Arts Commission in the amount of \$6,000 to the Division of Recreation, Culture and Wellness Division of Metro Parks to supplement a year of free Big Band Dances for the public.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

12-08-04

**BOARD DENIES REQUEST OF THE METRO HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
FOR USE OF THE SHOWMOBILE WITH FEE WAIVER DURING A CITYWIDE
OBSERVANCE HONORING THE LATE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

An application submitted by Mr. Kelvin Jones, Executive Director of the Metro Human Relations Commission, requesting approval of fee waiver for use of the showmobile during a city wide observance honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 19, 2009 was presented to the board.

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Carter, the board denied request to waive the fee for use of the showmobile during a city wide observance honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 19, 2009 because of the direct cost to Metro Parks' budget. In addition to the showmobile usage fee of \$450.00; payment to the employee transporting showmobile and remaining at the site would be charged at the holiday rate of double time and a half.

12-08-05

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN LIVER FOUNDATION
MID SOUTH CHAPTER FOR AMPLIFICATION DURING THE LIVER LIFE 5K WALK
TO BE HELD IN PERCY WARNER PARK ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2009**

An application submitted by Mr. Scott Tygard, representing the West Nashville Sports League, requesting use of the special events field at Warner Park on Monday, January 12, 2009, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, with amplification and waiver of all usage fees during a father/son/daughter “get together”.

Prior to board meeting Mr. Tygard notified Mr. Fossick, board chair, that he was rescinding his request for usage fee waivers but still would like to host the event. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Lawson, the board approved this request for amplification, with no fee waiver, during a father/son/daughter “get together” at the special events field in Warner Park, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, on Monday, January 12, 2009.

12-08-06

**BOARD APPROVES REQUEST OF CAROL WILLIAMS
TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDS GROUP FOR SHELBY PARK**

Upon motion of Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Davis-Samuels, the board approved request to establish the Friends of Shelby Park as an official volunteer support group to Metro Parks as recommended by committee. Mr. Lawson advised that a strong message is to be sent to petitioning friends groups stating that the creation of these groups are to support a park while working under the direction of the Metro Parks department.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

12-08-07

**BOARD DEFERS REQUEST OF THE REAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION OF THE
STATE OF TENNESSEE REAL PROPERTY SERVICES
TO UTILIZE THE PARKING AREA NEAR THE WESTERN END OF CUMBERLAND
MUNICIPAL PARK FOR OVERFLOW**

Mr. Harvey Freeman, representing Real Property Administration of the State of Tennessee, was present to request approval of the board for the use of a parking area near the western end of Cumberland Municipal Park off of Mainstream Drive for overflow parking of state employees and motor pool vehicles. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Lawson, the board deferred this request to the boards' acquisition committee for recommendation to the full board at their January meeting.

12-08-08

**BOARD APPROVES APPLICATION AND ULTIMATE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT
PROGRAM "PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALTHY LIVING" BY THE DIVISION OF
RECREATION, CULTURE AND WELLNESS DIVISION**

Upon motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Ms. Jones, the Board approved request of the Division of Recreation, Culture & Wellness requesting approval for application and ultimate acceptance of a grant program: "Prescription for Healthy Living". This grant is in partnership with Safety Net Consortium and Metro Public Health and will fund up to two Program Coordinators and two Recreation Leader positions as well as other costs associated with a research program aimed at obesity and diabetes in Nashville and Davidson County.

XI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS FROM STAFF

Community Garden Update – no report

Miracle League Update

Tim Netsch reported that bids were awarded to Everton, Oglesby Architect and Hawkins Partners and Parks is proceeding according to the Master Plan.

Park Watch/Trail Watch Program – no report

Park/School Wellness Program

Wellness program within the Glencliff cluster has found its way to Coleman Center and will continue until January 2009 with Dr. Barkin of Vanderbilt assisting by teaching yoga classes.

XII. UPCOMING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Ms. Jackie Jones announced upcoming special events:

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| December 4 and 5, 2008 | Joseph Cornell to conduct a workshop at Warner Park and Nature Center “Sharing Nature with Children” |
| December 5, 2008 | Holiday tree lighting at the Metro Courthouse at 6:00 pm with the Nashville Christmas Parade beginning at 7:00 pm. |
| December 4, 5, 6 and 7, 2008 | Mini-Nutcracker to be held in the auditorium at Harpeth Hall School. |
| December 11, 2008 | Holiday Recorder Concert at the Parthenon |
| December 5 – 19, 2008 | Holiday Art Exhibition and Sale at the Centennial Art Center |

XIII. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Wilson reported that Napier Center has entered into a partnership with the 2nd Harvest Food Band. The Center began by distributing an average of 100 food boxes to area constituents and now distributes 200 boxes per month. The center also provides after school snacks to the children and during the summer months provides breakfast for participants.

Reminded board members of Metro Parks mid-year budget review before the Metropolitan Council on Monday, January 12, 2009.

Mr. Fossick asked the board members to stop by the Sportsplex to view the new scoreboards in the aquatic area. He stated what a great improvement they have provided.

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

James Lawson expressed his concern regarding the committee appointed to oversee the restoration of Centennial Park. Mr. Lawson stated there is currently a Master Plan in place and asked why the Park Board was not advised in advance of plans to establish the committee to avoid potential conflicts. He felt it may not be a very collaborative arrangement and that the Park Board should be uncomfortable and concerned because it does not send a good message.

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Lamont Carter responded that he resigned as liaison to The Conservancy because he did not feel comfortable with the group as it appears the board has been fundamentally left out of the loop and The Conservancy seems to be an independent organization outside of the board. He also stated that The Conservancy should be operating as other (Metro Park) friends' groups.

Stan Fossick stated that he felt it was a public/private coalition to raise funds to save the monuments/statues within Centennial Park and does not think it was brought about to override the current Master Plan since this same group was involved in the initial Master Plan.

James Lawson stated he hoped Stan was correct but felt it was not presented that way and only time will tell.

Stan Fossick advised that he will have a representative of the committee come (January Board Meeting) and explain their intentions and where they are heading with this plan.

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

Mr. Roy E. Wilson, Director

Mr. Stan Fossick, Chairperson

