

NOTICE OF MEETING



CITY OF BRANSON

ADVISORY PARK BOARD

Committee Meeting – Tuesday, February 21, 2012 – 5:15 p.m.
Branson RecPlex – 1500 Branson Hills Parkway – Branson, MO

AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order.
- 2) Approval of January 17, 2012 minutes.
- 3) Financial Report review.
- 4) RecPlex/Skaggs Fitness Center Marquee Sign update.
- 5) 2012 Tournament/Special Event schedule.
- 6) 2012 Activity Guide.
- 7) FYI Items.
 - a. Parks & Recreation update.
- 8) Member's Reports.
- 9) Adjourn.

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Lisa Westfall, City Clerk, 417-337-8522

Garrett Anderson, Economic Development Director, 417-337-8589

Posted: February 17, 2012

At: _____ By: _____

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Park Board Minutes
January 17, 2012

Members Present: Larry Wilson, Candy Sullinger, Bob Simmons, Mica Farley, Julie Wolfe, Jeff Justus, and Gabe Miller

Members Absent: Kenny Garrison, Florence Parnell, and Kent Vanderpool

Staff Present: Cindy Shook, Preston Peper, Marsha Fulton,

Guests: Jim Lawson, and Joel Hornickel, with the Planning Department

Joe McDowell, Branson citizen and Monte Schisler, reporter for KRZK

Larry Wilson made a motion to approve the Park Board minutes from November 15, 2011. Mica Farley seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Business:

1. The meeting was called to order by Candy Sullinger with the first item on the agenda being the Red Roof Mall update. Cindy explained to the board and the guests that she had put this item on the agenda simply to make sure that the board was up to date with all the information and changes that had happened since the last meeting in November. Specifically, Cindy stated that she had asked Alderman Bob Simmons to give the update to the board. Bob said that he would be happy to update the board, and that in fact the city had closed on the mall earlier this month and will be keeping Simon properties on board to manage it for the next six months. Bob explained that Simon would not only manage the property but they would be helping to relocate the remaining stores that were left. Bob continued that he, along with a few city representatives, including Cindy Shook, had recently went on a walking tour of the mall and were quite pleased with what they saw. He said the buildings appeared in good shape with nice landscaping and green space, along with other amenities including benches and picnic tables. Bob went on to say that the complex was quite large and expansive with multi levels that could lend itself to a multitude of uses, including but not limited to a sports complex. Bob stated that ultimately the Board of Alderman wanted to do what was best for the community. Bob stated that while the number of tenants had dwindled to 31 at the mall and he hoped some would relocated to the Branson Meadows Mall. Additionally, in the negotiations between Simon and the City of Branson, Simon had agreed to give the city an extra nine acres that joined the mall property along with \$300,000. Bob closed by saying that the city was open to all ideas and would appreciate input from the Park Board. Jim Lawson injected that frequently when a City is asked to take over property, the property is in bad shape and in need of immediate repairs, but that was not the case here. Cindy stated that she had wanted to keep the board informed and that everything was very much in the early stages of planning and consideration. Jeff Justus added that he thought one of areas would be good for boy and girls scouts. Bob agreed that while that was a possibility, no one was in a hurry to make any quick decisions and they want to hear all possibilities. Cindy concluded this item by thanking Bob for the update.

2. Next on the agenda were vending contracts. Cindy opened this item by reminding the board that the city's new revenue policy requires the Park Board to review vending contracts and leases. Cindy stated that she had two separate contracts with Ozarks Coca Cola/Dr. Pepper Bottling Company for their review. The first contract was recently rebid as the contract had expired. The new five year contract is for soda vending throughout the city, including City Hall, the Fire Stations, etc. It is a five year contract and with the best bid coming from Coke with a commission percentage of 47% compared to 40% for Pepsi. Cindy then directed the board to the second contract with Coke, which is a yearly renewal as the contract has not expired, for soda for resale at the concession stands. She stated that an error on the front page of the contract had been discovered and Preston

handed out the corrected page, showing that this was period eight, not seven, of a ten year contract. Cindy stated that Preston had surveyed five area Parks & Recreation Department's last fall that offer concessions and buy soda for resale to make sure the contract remain competitive. Preston stated that we in fact had the lowest price per case of soda of all the departments he surveyed and recommended that we continue with the contract. Candy Sullinger asked for a vote to approve staff's recommendation of the two contracts with Ozarks Coca Cola/Dr. Pepper Bottling Company. Julie Wolfe made a motion to approve the contracts. Bob Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor.

3. The next item on the agenda was the proposed improvements to Nygard Park. Cindy opened this item by directing everyone's attention to the landscape rendering of Nygard Park and then introduced Joel Hornickel, Senior Planner and Landscape Architect with the City of Branson Planning Department. Joel explained that he was here to get the Park Board's input and hopefully support for the proposed improvements. He explained that he and Jim Lawson had been working in different neighborhoods to assess needs, including the neighborhood parks. Joel pointed out that on the proposed plans they would remove the existing concrete steps, plant Crepe Myrtle and other deciduous trees, and remove the existing chain link fencing and replace with spilt rail fencing on the east side. The goal is to make the park more attractive and inviting to the neighborhood. Additionally, Joel explained that they were looking to involve several organizations in the area, including Garrett Anderson and the Boy Scouts, Empire Electric, Public Works, and the City of Branson Tree Board. By utilizing all these organizations and resources the proposed improvements would not cost the Parks Department anything and would hopefully be able to be completed by Arbor Day. Julie Wolfe inquired as to where the entrance would be? Joel indicated that due to the park's terrain and slope, the entrance would be on the east side of the property facing the neighborhood. Candy Sullinger then asked what would be in place to deter foot traffic where the concrete steps are now? Joel explained that the slope and topography would be natural deterrents. Cindy Shook stated that she is a big proponent of taking the fence down and opening up the park. Jim Lawson added that their goal was to make the park more a part of the neighborhood. Joe McDowell then asked Joel about the removal of the fence on the south side of the park, and the fact that there was a drop off on that side. Additionally, Joe questioned the fencing option and the fact that split rail fencing can be vandalized more easily than other options might. Joel responded by stating that the plan was to grow dense vegetation buffer, and that the east side offers the best location option for the entry into the park. As for the fencing, Joel stated split rail fencing was a cost conscious decision, along with ease of installation from the use of volunteer labor. Jim Lawson agreed that Joe made a good point in regards to the fencing and that it was worth looking into other options. Lastly, Joe asked about the water runoff that occurred on the west side and dumped into the play area. Joe questioned if that should be looked into along with the possibility of additional lighting. Joel agreed that should be looked at and that they would be do so. Bob Simmons asked about the fact that there was no parking at the park. Joel addressed this by saying that there was parking at the K-Life parking lot and that the neighbors were within walking distance to the park also. Mica Farley brought up the subject of ADA since the Park Board has recently been reviewing the parks in regards to ADA compliance. Joel responded that Cindy had in fact forwarded him information on the recent ADA survey of the park and admitted compliance would be extremely challenging. The fact that Alexander Park is just a short distance away and Alexander is a much larger and ADA friendly option might have to suffice for now. Bob Simmons then asked if a pavilion might be something that would be beneficial. Joel stated that through the public meetings that had not come up, but if it was a desire of the neighborhood in the future it could be considered. Jim Lawson added that everyone should keep in mind that there were different needs in different neighborhoods and that not all parks can or had to do all things. Larry Wilson asked about the old

playground at the old high school property. Joel confirmed that in fact that playground was no longer in existence. Candy then asked Joel and Jim if there was anything else that they needed and she feels that the board likes and approves of the proposed changes. Joel responded by thanking the board for their input and to keep Arbor Day free for the potential unveiling of the new upgrades.

4. The next item on the agenda was the review of the Comprehensive Plan 2030 –Parks, Open Spaces, & Recreation. Cindy opened this item by explaining that this was the main reason that Jim and Joel were here. She stated that the Planning Department has been very supportive of parks and that they were here to review the comp plan and to get the Park Board’s feedback. Jim started by saying that this section is only a portion of the overall comprehensive plan that had been developed over the past two years. Jim continued that originally the plan called for a park within a quarter of a mile to all residences, which was not practical, so that had required a change to the master plan. Additionally, Jim expressed the need to include as many people as possible while working toward adoption of the master plan. Jim explained that these are long term plans that may or may not require a dedicated funding source. Jim said that sports itself has become an economic driver. Bob Simmons injected that the Mayor was very interested in getting the Park Board’s input and wants the department to develop a long range plan. With that being said, Bob added that he would be hesitant to go to the community right away with a big push for a parks master plan for several reasons. Developing a park master plan will add a huge additional work load on to the already large work load of the parks and planning staff, coupled with the fact that the city has just completed a long series of meetings and request for public input in regards to the comprehensive plan. Also the city is in the middle of many large projects right now, including the revitalization of 76 and gathering public input on how to move forward with the old high school and Red Roof Mall. He stated that he thinks it might be wise to move slowly as to not try to do too much at one time and let some of those projects resolve themselves first. In addition, he would not want to take a lot of public input and then lack the ability to move forward on projects and improvements that might be identified. Bob stated that this was just his personal opinion but he suggested that the Board take time to review the community plan and then maybe start some type of park assessment process. Cindy agreed that it might be a good idea to assess what we currently have and get input from the community on what they would like to see. She suggested the idea of holding more meetings at parks like what we did at Parnell to hear what people like and don’t like in their neighborhood park. Getting public input might allow building momentum and moving toward a funding source for future growth of the park’s department. Cindy stated she recently participated in a panel discussion on parks and storm water sales tax initiatives, which are quite common and something Springfield successfully passed and has benefitted from. Cindy reported that this type of combined tax was fairly common and something Branson may want to pursue in future years as a funding mechanism for land acquisition and park improvements. In addition, as the Branson population has grown over 10,000, there are now new stringent rules our city must follow by DNR related to water quality. Bob agreed that the best option may be storm water and parks together for a mutually beneficial outcome. Joel then reviewed the specific strategies and actions developed for the parks, open space and recreation section of the comprehensive plan. He indicated that some of the strategies can be implemented in a shorter time frame while some are long term. Joel stated that the big concentration was to expand open spaces and trail networking connections. Jim mentioned that the new trail connection at the campground is a nice addition and allows travel on foot safely from the campground area all the way to North Beach park. Bob agreed and said that he and his wife had walked that route for years and it was a little dangerous with the traffic, but now it was a pretty pleasant stroll. Bob commented that the park acreage numbers in the report seem a little skewed due to the additional of Henning Park. He said it important to have parks in the appropriate areas of the city, but he was not a fan of mini parks throughout the city as it becomes a big maintenance

issue. Cindy then asked Joel how many people were involved in the feedback involving parks as part of the comp plan. Joel confirmed that there had been between 100-200 people involved and that they continued to review the phone interviews. Cindy then said that it was very rewarding to see the number of people involved who wanted to see the parks and trails expanded. Joel agreed and said the awareness of Lakeside Forest had spurred more interest. Cindy said that none of it could have been accomplished without the help of several city departments as well as Garrett Anderson and the Boy Scouts troops. Jim then added that one of the things that had impressed him was that the citizens involved did not seem to have an agenda and only wanted to see Branson continue to thrive and attract more visitors and trails were a big part of that.

5. Next on the agenda was the recreation update. Cindy stated that she was very happy with the first phase of the Community Center improvements and looks forward to the second phase in 2012.

Member's Reports

1. Julie Wolfe stated that she was glad to see the improvements to Parnell Park and looks forward to the completion of that project. Gabe Miller questioned if there had been any discussion of putting soccer goals at Parnell? Cindy stated that did not come up in the community meeting but could be looked at.

With no additional member reports, Julie Wolfe made a motion to close the meeting. Jeff Justus seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned 6:20 pm

UNAUDITED

**Parks & Recreation Program
Cost Analysis
100% OF 12 MONTH as of DECEMBER 31, 2011
FY 2011, PERIOD 12**

Program	Program Revenues 2011 YTD	Program Revenues 2010 YTD	Program Expenditures 2011 YTD	Program Expenditures 2010 YTD	Operating Rev (Exp) 2011 YTD	Operating Rev (Exp) 2010 YTD	Est. Depreciation 2011 YTD	Est. Depreciation 2010 YTD	Net Rev / (Exp) 2011 YTD	Net Rev / (Exp) 2010 YTD
Administration			301,663	263,220	(301,663)	(263,220)			(301,663)	(263,220)
Community Center	23,989	20,988	67,016	52,465	(43,027)	(31,477)	8,515	7,639	(51,543)	(39,116)
Recreation Complex										
RecPlex	256,426	246,519	602,514	604,304	(346,088)	(357,785)	186,366	185,386	(532,454)	(543,171)
Concessions	173,193	171,520	107,378	117,409	65,815	54,111			65,815	54,111
Tournaments	59,289	59,334	12,613	14,974	46,677	44,360			46,677	44,360
Day Camp	61,753	56,015	46,910	46,180	14,843	9,835			14,843	9,835
Pool	151,510	134,563	125,630	112,790	25,880	21,773			25,880	21,773
Swim Team	9,041	13,982	15,571	20,391	(6,529)	(6,409)			(6,529)	(6,409)
Golf Course	46,214	57,913	74,135	94,676	(27,921)	(36,763)			(27,921)	(36,763)
Campgrounds	422,930	507,610	251,729	248,674	171,201	258,936	7,870	7,138	163,331	251,798
Total Facilities	1,204,344	1,268,444	1,605,158	1,575,082	(400,814)	(306,638)	202,752	200,163	(603,566)	(506,802)
Adult Basketball	11,700	8,705	23,745	21,110	(12,045)	(12,405)			(12,045)	(12,405)
Adult Volleyball	5,725	2,625	12,022	10,651	(6,297)	(8,026)			(6,297)	(8,026)
Adult Softball	28,940	24,655	44,999	42,159	(16,059)	(17,504)			(16,059)	(17,504)
Tennis	3,410	2,213	2,625	2,908	785	(695)			785	(695)
Youth Baseball	41,048	40,115	39,348	40,503	1,700	(388)			1,700	(388)
Youth Basketball	23,141	18,411	25,949	23,611	(2,809)	(5,200)			(2,809)	(5,200)
Youth Soccer	10,001	9,190	17,957	15,574	(7,956)	(6,384)			(7,956)	(6,384)
Youth Volleyball	8,675	7,935	11,865	10,756	(3,190)	(2,821)			(3,190)	(2,821)
Adult Football	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-
Total Ball Programs	132,640	113,849	178,511	167,272	(45,871)	(53,423)	-	-	(45,871)	(53,423)
Total Parks	-	-	348,038	282,263	(348,038)	(282,263)	17,075	17,912	(365,113)	(300,175)
Total	1,336,984	1,382,293	2,131,707	2,024,617	(794,722)	(642,324)	219,827	218,075	(1,014,549)	(860,399)
Other Revenues:										
Cigarette Tax	78,847	82,506	-	-	78,847	82,506	-	-	78,847	82,506
Other Revenues	98,645	20,804	-	-	98,645	20,804	-	-	98,645	20,804
Transfer/General	574,639	591,859	-	-	574,639	591,859	-	-	574,639	591,859
Total	2,089,115	2,077,462	2,131,707	2,024,617	(42,591)	52,845	219,827	218,075	(262,419)	(165,230)

Administration Expense is
14%
of the Total Expense

UNAUDITED

Branson Parks & Recreation
2012 Tournaments and Special Events
 Updated 2-14-12

March	17	HOA Volleyball
	23-25	Power League Basketball Tournament
	31	HOA Volleyball
	31 – 4/ 1	USSSA Branson Opening Day Baseball Tournament
April	6 – 7	Power League Basketball Tournament
	14 – 15	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	21	Branson <i>Bring It and Fling It Ultimate</i> Frisbee Tourney
	21 – 22	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	20 – 22	Power League Basketball Tournament
	28	HOA Volleyball
	28 – 29	USSSA Baseball Tournament
May	5 – 6	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	12	Community Garage Sale & Farmer's Market
	12 – 13	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	19 – 20	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	24 – 26	Tri-Lakes Basketball Tournament
	25 – 27	USSSA Branson Memorial Day Baseball Tournament
31 – 6/2	Tri-Lakes Basketball Tournament	
June	1 – 3	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	7 – 9	Tri-Lakes Basketball Tournament
	8 – 10	USSSA Branson Classic Baseball Tournament
	14 – 16	Licking High School Team Basketball Camp
	14 – 17	USSSA 10U AA Missouri State Tournament
	22 – 24	Andy's Frozen Custard MAYB Basketball Tournament
	22 – 24	USSSA Ozark Classic NIT, Softball Tournament
	27	"The Track Family Fun Parks" FREE Swim Day
	27 – 29	Licking High School Team Basketball Camp
	27 – 7/1	USSSA U11 Boys Global World Series
July	7	Disc Golf Tournament
	5 – 7	Tri-Lakes Basketball Tournament
	10 – 15	USSSA U12 Boys AA World Series Championship
	12	Dive-In Movie
	12	Tri-Lakes Basketball Tournament
	13 – 15	"The Meltdown" Basketball Tournament
	13 – 14	USTA Tennis Branson Jr. Open
	16 – 22	USSSA Girls U9/U10 World Series Championship
	19 – 21	Licking Team High School Volleyball Camp
	21 – 22	Branson Waves Swim Meet
	23 – 27	Challenger Youth Soccer Camp
	25	"State Park Marina" FREE Swim Day
	23 – 27	Challenger Youth Soccer Camp
26 – 28	Tri-Lakes Basketball Tournament	
August	4	Granny National Basketball Tournament
	5	Back to School Bash
	18	Branson Mountain Man Triathlon
September	3	Doggie Swim at the AquaPlex
	8 -9	USSSA Baseball Tournament

	15	Branson High School Softball Tournament
	29 -30	USSSA Baseball Tournament
October	4 – 5	4th Annual Tri-Lakes Basketball Coaches Clinic
	6	Community Garage Sale
	13	Mutt Strut
	13 - 14	USSSA Baseball Tournament
	20 - 21	USSSA Softball Tournament
	27	Halloween Boonanza
November	17-18	Branson Showcase MAYB Basketball Tournament
December	8	Breakfast with Santa
	15 – 16	Holiday Hoops Classic MAYB Basketball Tournament

Recreation Update (2/21/12)

The third annual Branson Gong Show is set for Wednesday, February 22 at 6:49pm at the Hamner Barber Theatre. This hilarious show will once again serve as a benefit for the Branson Senior center and the Meals on Wheels Program. Jim Barber will once again serve as host with celebrity judges. Tickets may be purchased at the Branson Senior Center.

Special thanks to the College of the Ozarks Character Camp for their volunteer work with the Park's department on January 11-12. Approximately 15 college freshman worked both days placing a fresh coat of paint on the RecPlex gymnasium

The 1st annual Father/Daughter Dance will take place on Saturday February 11th at the Branson Community Center. Girls ages 4-12 are welcome and the cost is \$22.00 per couple, \$10.00 for each additional daughter. There will be a live DJ, refreshments, door prizes, and a complimentary photo for each couple. The event will be from 6:30pm-8:30pm and doors will open at 6:00pm.

Installation is ongoing of the new marquee sign for the Branson RecPlex and Skaggs Fitness Center. Steel support beams have been cemented into the ground. The vendor is scheduled to place the sign and LED message board on the frame next week, weather permitting. The sign and message board will next be mounted and wired. This monument sign will sit along Branson Hills Parkway and feature the RecPlex and Skaggs's logos and a LED message board for RecPlex event and activity information.

A new Campground Sign was installed the week of Feb 1st at the Lakeside RV Park. This sign will direct campers into the park as well as serving as a much more "warm welcome" to patrons that will also be visible at night.

The section of the sidewalk between the Stockstill parking lot and the tennis courts was repaired the week of January 28. The walkway section had begun to break so a new section of concrete was poured for both aesthetic purposes as well as safety.

After a recent theft of a disc golf basket at Sunset Park, the maintenance staff removed all the remaining baskets, set in concrete and re-installed them last week.

On January 27, staff members attended the quarterly meeting in Ozark of the Southwest Region for the Missouri Parks & Recreation Association. There were about 40 members from Springfield, Branson, Ozark and Republic. There were discussions about the State Conference being held at Lake of the Ozarks at the end of the month, fundraising potentials regarding the SW Region of MRPA, legislative issues from the around the region as well as City updates of what communities are doing in parks and recreation. There was also discussion regarding the mini-conference for our region that was held in Branson in 2011.

The 1st annual Father/Daughter Valentine Dance took place on Saturday, Feb 11 at the Branson Community Center. An overwhelming response to this first year event caused the department to cut off registration at 150 attendees. Every father/daughter pair received a free photo to memorialize the event. Refreshments were served and door prizes were given away that included Garfield's gift certificate, Mazzio's gift certificate, Family Fun Factory passes and more. Some fathers even rented tuxedos to go in style. Due to the large turn-out, next year this event will be moved to the RecPlex gym.

Park's Director Cindy Shook attended the Community Health Assessment workgroup on February 7 at the Taney County Health Department. The purpose of the workgroup was for the Health Department to solicit feedback from the attendees on health priorities for our area and to provide an avenue for collaborations with existing community resources. Cindy shared with the group an idea entailing a cooperative effort between the Park's Department and Branson schools to encourage more physical activity in children. The program, modeled after a program in Springfield, would form "Step Clubs" in the elementary schools where children walk before school starts and incentives are given out at various milestones. Cindy will also be approaching Skaggs about participating as well.