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City of Branson

110 West Maddux
Branson, MO 65616
417-337-8526

Public Information Department
jadams@bransonmo.gov

News Release

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Contact: David Miller, City Engineer, 337-8559

City officials continuing interest in proposed nature center

Second meeting on facility set for September 3

A second public meeting to discuss the possible development of a nature center in Branson will be held Thursday, September 3, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Branson Convention Center in the Fall Creek Room. The first meeting was held in March where Branson Board of Alderman, community leaders, representatives from the state's Congressional delegation, state officials and county commissioners were presented the nature center facility opportunity by city staff and representatives from the Wildcat Glades Joplin, Missouri.

The proposed nature center would be located on four acres at the corner of Highway 76 and Fall Creek Road. The proposed facility would also serve as the entrance to the existing 130 acre Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area that features hiking trails, an observation deck overlooking Lake Taneycomo and over 300 historic hand lain stone steps that descend to the lake.

The purpose of the September 3 meeting is to further discuss funding mechanisms, educational benefits, and energy saving methods used in "green" buildings. Also, Great River Engineering of Springfield will present a possible design of the facility.

A core group of city staff, community leaders, state officials, county commissioners, and representatives from the state's Congressional delegation have once again been invited to be a part of this discussion. The Branson Board of Aldermen invites citizens to this meeting as well as them to contact aldermen with suggestions, comments and ideas for the proposed nature facility.