

**BOARD MEETING
September 29, 2023
4600 East 63rd Trafficway
Kansas City, Missouri 64130**

Workshop:

3:30 p.m. – 2024/25 Parks and Recreation Budget Submittal Discussion

**2:00 O’CLOCK P.M.
BOARD MEETING**

Call to Order – President Jack Holland

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: President Holland, Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Perez-Rico joined the meeting virtually.

On a motion by Commissioner Perez-Rico, duly seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board approved the Board Minutes of September 12, 2023

Resolution #34340 – Facility Use and Concession Agreement with Show Me Riders Horse Club

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, duly seconded by Commissioner Perez-Rico, the Board approved the

Background: The Mission of the Show Me Riders Horse Club is to introduce children and communities to horsemanship through fun and educational events and programs. Since 2013, the Show Me Riders Horse Club of Kansas City has introduced horsemanship to many communities in Kansas City’s urban core. Pumpkins + Ponies is a joyful event that will include pony rides, a pumpkin patch, food, games, music and hayrides.

Sisters Living Beyond The Ribbon wishes to enter a Facility Use and Concession agreement for the use of Little Blue Valley Park, located at 8259 South Noland Rd, to hold their Pumpkin + Ponies event, on October 28, 2023.

The Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department will be waiving all fees for this one-day event. Set-up for the event will begin at 8 a.m. and tear down will end at 6 p.m. on October 28, 2023. The event hours are from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. They are expecting approximately 1,500 participants.

The contractor will be responsible for providing the following items:

1. A list of items for sale
2. A plan for traffic and parking control
3. Safety and security plan
4. Marketing plan
5. Certificate of insurance per city requirements

6. Map of event layout
7. Copies of other City permits required in hosting the event

A written-out plan to address litter and recycling during the event

Resolution #32341 – Facility Use and Concession Agreement with Sisters Living Beyond the Ribbon

On a motion by Commissioner Perez-Rico, duly seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board approval the Agreement with Sisters Living Beyond the Ribbon and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: Sisters Living Beyond the Ribbon was established in 2016 as a non-profit organization to assist African American Women who are diagnosed with some form of Breast Cancer. Their Mission is to educate, support and provide resources when needed. The Sisters Living Beyond the Ribbon 5k event will have vendors, music and a survivor’s tent.

Sisters Living Beyond The Ribbon wishes to enter a Facility Use and Concession agreement for the use of the Swope Park Bandstand, located at 4177 Pavilion Road, to hold their Sisters Living Beyond The Ribbon 5k event, October 14, 2023.

The Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department will be waiving all fees for this one-day event. Set-up for the event will begin at 6 a.m. and tear down will end at 1:30 p.m. on October 14, 2023. The event hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. They are expecting approximately 150 participants.

The contractor will be responsible for providing the following items:

1. A list of items for sale
2. A plan for traffic and parking control
3. Safety and security plan
4. Marketing plan
5. Certificate of insurance per city requirements
6. Map of event layout
7. Copies of other City permits required in hosting the event

A written-out plan to address litter and recycling during the event

Resolution #32342 – Cooperative Agreement with Global FC

On a motion by Commissioner Perez-Rico, duly seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board approved the Agreement with Global FC and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: Global FC, a non-profit organization working in partnership with KC Current, has requested the use of the Futsal court at Ashland Square Park for the purpose of conducting soccer clinics. The main goal of this initiative is to offer competitive soccer opportunities to girls.

The first clinic will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. followed by another on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Access to the facility will be

provided at no charge. This agreement will begin on October 4, 2023 and end no later than October 28, 2023. Insurance will be provided per City's requirements.

Resolution #32343 – Cooperative Agreement with Roanoke Conservancy – Small Works of Art Gallery

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, duly seconded by Commissioner Perez-Rico, the Board approved the Agreement with Roanoke Park Conservancy and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: The Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners is being requested to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the Roanoke Park Conservancy for the installation of a Small Works of Art Gallery (SWAG) in Roanoke Park.

The SWAG allows for art to be given, exchanged, viewed, and taken from a small free standing wooden box on a post, mostly related to Free Little Libraries. The SWAG will be located in front of the Westport-Roanoke Community Center by the entry ADA ramp in order to be accessible to all residents.

All the funding will be provided from an ArtsKC Grant obtained by artist Cheryl Gail for the materials and installation of the project. The City will not contribute any funds for the work. The SWAG will become the responsibility of the Roanoke Park Conservancy for consistent review and maintenance.

Resolution #32344 – One Million Dollars from the Park Fund Balance – Bruce Watkins Connector Community Park Project

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, duly seconded by Commissioner Perez-Rico, the Board approved the use of \$1 Million Dollars from the Park Fund Balance to be used for the Bruce Watkins Connector Community Park project.

Background: The neighborhoods in the vicinity of Bruce Watkins Drive and Brush Creek were fractured by the Bruce R Watkins Highway Project which bisected the area north and south and by the Brush Creek Flood Control Project which bisected the area east and west.

U.S. Representative Emanuel Cleaver, II secured \$4 million in HUD Community Planning and Development Program funding for the Bruce Watkins Connector Community Park project to create recreational opportunities for these neighborhoods and to remove some of the barriers caused by the Bruce Watkins Highway project and the Brush Creek Flood Control project. The planned improvements include a skate park that will provide a place for people of all ages to skateboard and inline skate. The community park will be supported by parking improvements, picnic shelters, trails, sidewalks, and other park amenities. The HUD Community Planning and Development Program is a federal grant that requires local matching funds.

Staff requests that \$1, 000,000 from the Park Fund Balance in account no – 2030 707567 20235002 to be used for the local match.

Resolution #32345 – One Million Dollars from the Park Fund Balance – Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Pedestrian Bridge Project

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, duly seconded by Commissioner Perez-Rico, the Board approved the use of \$1 Million Dollars from the Park Fund Balance to be used for the MLK Park Pedestrian Bridge project.

Background: Martin Luther King, Jr. Park was dedicated on April 4, 1978. The site had formerly been known as “Brush Creek Park” and had been used as a recreational site for several years with tennis courts and a baseball diamond.

On August 28, 2021, the 15th and the Mahomies Playground officially opened, and it has quickly become a favorite Kansas City family destination. The lack of pedestrian access to the park has been a challenge for families who live in the neighborhood.

U.S. Representative Emanuel Cleaver, II secured \$2.8 million in High Priority Project (HPP) Program Funds to build a pedestrian bridge in the MLK Park that will connect communities on the north and south banks of Brush Creek and allow pedestrians to safely reach the amenities at the MLK park. The HPP Program is a federal grant that requires local matching funds.

Staff requests that \$1, 000,000 from the Park Fund Balance in account no – 2030 707567 70232201 to be used for the local match.

Resolution #32346 – Change Order #2 with Gunter Construction Company – Southeast Community Center Pool Renovation Project

On a motion by Commissioner Perez-Rico, duly seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board approved Change Order #2 with Gunter Construction Company in the amount of \$47,495.44, extended the contract time to March 22, 2024 and authorized the Director or designee to execute the change order on behalf of the Board.

Background: Southeast Community Center is located at 4201 E. 63rd St and was built in 2008. The community center was built to replace the old community center. The existing community center aquatics facility has three separate pool areas, and the maintenance and operation of the system has been a challenge to operate. In recent years the public and staff have requested a redesign of the aquatic area to accommodate a larger variety of users and age groups. The new pool design was completed, and bids were received on February 1, 2023. On April 20, 2023, Gunter Construction Company was awarded the base bid in the amount of \$2,902,000. The Notice to Proceed was issued May 16, 2023.

Change Order #1 provided funding for the installation of acoustical wall panels in the multipurpose room, replacement of floor, wall and ceiling tiles in both steam rooms, new flooring, shower re-grouting, locker and partition repairs, bench replacements, painting, removals in the First Aid room, installation of a roof vapor barrier, installation of two temporary security walls and an exterior door lock. Change Order #1 increased the contract price \$154,009 and added 19 calendar days to the construction schedule for a revised project deadline of February 14, 2024.

This Change Order #2 will provide funding to excavate rock from the pool area, pool equipment room and the pool drain line to an outside manhole. Design adjustments have been made to the excavation limits and material quantities to reduce costs and specialized rock excavation equipment was approved to reduce impacts to the building during the indoor rock excavation work. Change Order #2 will increase the contract price \$47,495.44 and will add 37 calendar days to the construction schedule for a revised project deadline of March 22, 2024.

The Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity (CREO) Department set goals of 15% MBE and 15% WBE for this project. The Gunter Construction Company participation plan of 20.3 % MBE and 45.9 % WBE was approved by the CREO Department and will continue to be met with the approval of this Change Order #2. Funding for this Change Order #2 will come from account number 3823-707567-611060-70204994.

Resolution #32347 – Amendment #8 to the Starlight Theatre Use and Concession Agreement

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, duly seconded by Commissioner Perez-Rico, the Board approved Amendment #8 to the Starlight Theatre Use and Concession Agreement in the amount of \$400,000 and authorized the Director or designee to execute the amendment on behalf of the Board.

Background: The City and the Starlight Theatre Association entered into a new Concessions and Use Agreement for the operation, maintenance, and potential improvements of Starlight Theatre on December 1, 2015, ending November 30, 2020. The Agreement shall be automatically extended for successive five (5) year periods as permitted by the Charter of the City.

The original agreement is written to receive City funding if available. Funding is available in FY 23/24 appropriation: 2030-707501-B-70165933 in the amount of \$400,000.00.

Prior to reimbursement, the Association must submit documentation of their expenditures to the Parks and Recreation Department and shall comply with all Federal, State and Local laws, including city ordinances and regulations applicable for bidding, purchasing and contracting procedures which are required by the City for such procedures.

All remaining terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Directors Updated by Director Cotten on various projects/programs.

Aquatics Master Plan Discussion

Commissioner Smith commented, I'm curious about the discussions. She further commented that, I appreciate staff taken time out and having the Aquatic Master Plan, discussions, district by district. Questions and Comments below.

- Commissioner Smith commented that it was the understanding of the Board that investing in the Swope Pool, at its current location, was not in the best interest of the city and the recommendation from staff was to build a new pool at the Southeast Community Center site. Also, moving the pool to the Southeast Community Center had several positive anticipated effects, one the site line and being able to promote swimming lessons. Rebuilding the Swope Pool at the current site is not a good idea because it is in the flood

zone, would use most of the funding and impact other districts. What changed? Commissioner Perez-Rico, echoed the same question.

- Director Cotten explained that staff met with Councilman Curls and Mayor-Pro-Tem Parks-Shaw and Councilman Curls shared with staff that moving the Swope Pool would take away from the historical integrity of the site itself and had no interest in building a new pool to the Southeast Community Center site. Mayor Pro-Tem Parks-Shaw is on the same page.
- Staff presented five different concepts for a new facility at the current location in Swope Park, from a very simple facility to a more elaborate facility. We asked them to give us the best design they like the most and staff would then flush out the cost, which has not happened yet.
- Director Cotten reiterated to the Councilmembers, that even if the decision is made to leave the pools as they are, same configuration, the pools would still have to be rebuilt, because of the failing structures.
- Commissioner Smith asked if there will be any community discussion and engagement around the options or does this rest solely in 5th District Councilmembers?
- Director Cotten commented, we were asked to provide the five concepts, Council could vote to go ahead and do the Southeast Community site and yes, at some point and time there will be community engagement.

Commissioner Perez-Rico asked if the Tony Acuirre Community Center pool was fixed. Deputy Director Clay reported yes that we got it up and running last week. Commissioner Perez-Rico commented that she is going to that meeting, after the Board Meeting. Director Cotton and other Parks staff will also be attending that meeting.

President Holland commented that he and Richard Allen attended an outstanding Park Ambassadors picnic last week, and the volunteers are doing just fabulous job. I think they had an enthusiastic time at the picnic itself and the ambassadors are dedicated citizens, and we should all be appreciative of their service. Commissioner Perez-Rico commented that between their volunteers' hours is valued at about \$250,000. Commissioner Smith commented that she appreciated the invitation, she was out of town and was not able to come. But I definitely want to echo the support for the Ambassadors and all of our volunteers. We would not be able to be a viable department without them, so thank you.

Public Hearing: Clara Kribs came before the board regarding fees being charged to the KC Learn Home Education Network. Ms. Kribs gave a brief overview of her concerns and said that she was not here to ask for reconsideration, but to ensure that all of our facts have been represented accurately and publicly and to ascertain how the Board feels that these decisions are in alignment with the stated Mission Statement of the Parks and Recreation Department, which was read by Ms. Kribs. Ms. Kribs gave a brief overview of KC Learn representative's discussions with the Parks and Recreation staff over the last couple of months, as well as her concerns of the lack of communication and/or incorrect information, she feels was relayed to the representatives from park staff.

Ms. Kribs said that a church has opened its doors, I am here to inform and make things transparent. Commissioner Smith asked what her expectations are today and are you asking for reconsideration. Ms. Kribs commented that the

doors are closed, we feel uncomfortable now.

Commissioner Smith commented that it is the Boards desire to fully live out our Mission but recognize that that does not necessary equate to exactly how residence or as Commissioners in our seat, that we can't always come to an agreement of what that looks like. Commissioners thanked Ms. Kribs for coming before the Board and sharing this information. Commissioner Smith asked for information from staff by the next Board Meeting.



Beth Haden, President
Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners



Karmen Houston, Board Secretary