

**BOARD MEETING
February 27, 2024**

**4:00 O'CLOCK P.M.
Workshop**

**5:00 O'CLOCK P.M.
Board Meeting**

**4600 East 63rd Trafficway
Kansas City, Missouri 64130**

Workshop

4 p.m. – Starlight Theatre Ordinance

4:15 p.m. 9th & Van Brunt Use Policy

4:30 p.m. – Kessler Park

Board Meeting

Call to Order – President Beth Haden

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: President Haden, Commissioner Contreras, Commissioner Gorenc, Commissioner and Commissioner Taylor

Board Members Absent: Commissioner Smith.

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras duly seconded by Commissioner Gorenc the Board approved the February 13, 2024 Board Minutes.

Resolution #32426 - - Board Support of the Kansas City Zoo Lion/Kopie Project

On a motion by Commissioner Taylor, duly seconded by Commissioner Contreras, the Board approved the Resolution to support and approved the Kansas City Zoo and Aquarium Lion Exhibit project.

Background: In 2020, the Kansas City Zoo and Aquarium was appropriated \$6,000,000 in GO Bond funding to address ADA issues in the park. This money was spread between three projects, \$2,500,000 for Sea Lion, \$1,500,000 for Beaks and Feet Boulevard, and \$2,000,000 for Lion Exhibit.

The project being presented today is the Lion Exhibit area, the final of the three projects. The project will include replacing the current walking pathway to allow for a minimum 8-10ft wide concrete sidewalk, modifying the current lion viewing building to address ADA issues, as well as add ADA compliant bathrooms to the area.

As stated in the contract between the City and Friends of the Zoo, FOTZ shall advise the Board of any reconstruction, relocation, replacement, modification or removal any and all structures, improvements and other items deemed necessary or desirable by FOTZ, if the cost of any such action is expected to be

more than \$500,000.0 FOTZ shall advise the Parks Board of the nature of the proposed action prior to taking it. Estimated cost for this project is \$3 Million.

Recognizing the outstanding individual contributions and collective impact of the KC Parks Ambassadors

KC Parks Ambassadors are a team of dedicated community members who volunteer once a month or more with the Kansas City Missouri Parks and Recreation Department. Since 2020, their generous service has made an incredible impact in Kansas City, benefitting residents and visitors, our parks and boulevards, the environment, and even KC Parks employees.

In 2023, KC Parks Ambassadors played a vital role in helping the department complete 319 projects that engaged 3,297 volunteers. In total, volunteers contributed 7,209 hours of service valued at \$229,246. The KC Parks Ambassadors were also recipients of the 2023 Missouri Park and Recreation Association Citation Award.

Ambassadors have been of extraordinary assistance to the department on large-scale projects requiring immediate attention, and when extra staffing isn't available. Examples include an after-hours cleanup following a fish kill on Brush Creek, fireworks debris cleanup in numerous parks following Independence Day, and painting over fresh graffiti in parks.

Because of their leadership, we're able to host dozens of beatification projects during Earth Day Weekend and the Great Kansas City Cleanup Weekend and provide assistance at some of the department's largest events including Make Music Day and Kansas City's Lawn Party.

KC Parks Ambassadors have also become a pipeline for recruiting outstanding KC Parks employees. A total of four new employees have joined the department because of the program.

Most importantly, their leadership has created a ripple effect that inspires KCMO residents and the broader community to also be stewards of our shared spaces. The Ambassadors Program is now being replicated citywide, through all city departments.

Environmental Accomplishments

In 2023, KC Parks Ambassadors diverted several tons of loose litter away from waterways while beautifying our shared spaces, removed 10 acres of invasive bush honeysuckle from our parks, recycled nearly two tons of littered glass that otherwise would have ended up in the landfill, and collected seeds and planted native flowers beneficial for pollinators and the environment.

They also took the lead in establishing the first-ever volunteer composting team to help reduce the carbon footprint for the Ethnic Enrichment Festival, making it the most eco-friendly event in the festival's 44-year history. For three days during the hottest weekend of the year, Ambassadors collected 2.5 tons of food waste for compost – waste that otherwise would have been dumped in the landfill. Composting is now the new standard for the festival.

KC Parks Ambassadors also worked with the Central District Natural Resources team to complete Phase 1 of a multi-year effort to meticulously remove six acres of invasive honeysuckle on steep terrain in Gillham Park. Phase 2 of this massive project continues in 2024, with the goal of reforesting the site with beneficial native plants by 2025. Completing a long-term project of this scale would not be possible without volunteer assistance.

Resolution #32427 – Facility Use with Concession Agreement with Ethnic Enrichment Commission

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor the Board approved the Agreement with the Ethnic Enrichment Commission and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: The Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival celebrates all the wonderful cultures that make Kansas City a wonderful and diverse place to call home. The festival includes food & beverages, music, crafts, and dance from around the world, right here in the heart of America, Kansas City.

The Ethnic Enrichment Commission wishes to enter into a Facility use with Concessions Agreement for the use of Swope Park, including the Bandstand and Shelter 3, located at Pavilion Road, to hold the Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival, from 2024 – 2028. This festival continues to showcase new foods and entertainment annually. They expect thousands in attendance each year.

The Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department will be compensated \$20,000.00 on or before September 1, of each given year, (2024-2028). KCPD, KCFD and EMT will be onsite. **Certificate of insurance will cover all applicable requirements and be due 14 days before the first event date.**

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 any other City permits required in hosting the event
8. A written-out plan to address litter and recycling during the event

Resolution #32428 – Agreement with United States Tennis Association Missouri Valley

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Board approved the Agreement with United States Tennis Association Missouri Valley to operate the Plaza Tennis Center, from February 27, 2024 to December 31, 2024, and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: Due to the fact that the previous Facility Lease and Concession agreement was terminated during the lease period due to non-payment of lease rental payments by the previous Lessee and, due to the timing of the early termination of the previous agreement there is an exigent need to have this facility open this season for use by recreational players, local college and high school tennis teams, and leagues.

Due to the urgency of reopening the Plaza Tennis Center the United States Tennis Association Missouri Valley has agreed to operate and manage the Center for the remaining of the year for the Parks and Recreation Department. The term for this agreement will begin on February 27, 2024, and end on December 31, 2024. United States Tennis Association Missouri Valley will operate the facility as a public tennis center and has agreed to share 40% of the net profits from the revenue generated by the Plaza Tennis Center.

The KCMO Parks and Recreation Department will provide trash and recycling collection, pay all utilities, perform approved maintenance and improvements of the building and structures, and provide landscaping of the exterior grounds of the facility.

Resolution #32429 – Facility Use without Concessions Agreement with KC Crew

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Board approved the Agreement with KC Crew and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: KC Crew is requesting the use of the following facilities for the purpose of conducting adult softball, soccer, flag football, pickleball and kickball. Activities will take place at various times and various days throughout the week, depending on the field.

- Penn Valley Park (West 29th Street and Broadway Boulevard) Diamonds #1 & #2.
- Swope Park (Swope Parkway and Meyer Boulevard) Diamonds #1, #2 & #3.

KC Crew will compensate 40% of league revenue and \$30/hour for lights for a total estimated payment of \$56,300.00. Field rental and lights usage payments will be made May 3, 2024 in the amount of \$16,300.00; \$21,500.00 on July 12, 2024; and \$18,500.00 on September 13, 2024.

This agreement term is from April 8, 2024, to November 1, 2024. KC Crew will provide commercial general liability insurance per City's requirements.

Resolution #32430 – Facility Use without Concession Agreement with Stonewall Sports Kansas City

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Board approved the Agreement with Stonewall Sports Kansas City and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: Stonewall Sports Kansas City is requesting the use of facilities at Robert Gillham Park located at 3915 Gillham Road for the purpose of conducting adult kickball games. Activities will take place on Sundays during the term of this agreement and Stonewall Sports Kansas City agrees to compensate 40% of league player revenue for an estimated total compensation of \$8,400.00. Payments are due on April 15, 2024 and September 15, 2024.

This agreement runs from March 20, 2024, to October 20, 2024. Stonewall Sports will provide commercial general liability insurance per City's requirements.

Resolution #32431 – Facility Use without Concessions Agreement with Kansas City Kickball

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Board approved the Agreement with Kansas City Kickball and authorized the Director or designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Background: Kansas City Kickball is requesting the use of facilities at Penn Valley Park, Diamond No. 2, located at West 29th Street and Broadway for the purpose of conducting kickball games and leagues on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Kansas City Kickball will pay a 40% revenue share and \$30/hour for lights for an estimated total payment of \$20,175.00. Payment is due May 15, 2024; June 30, 2024; September 3, 2024.

This agreement term is from April 3, 2024, to November 15, 2024. Kansas City Kickball will provide commercial general liability insurance per City's requirements.

Resolution #32432 – North Kansas City School District – Purchase of Parland (Hodge Park – 36 acres northeast part of park adjacent to Shoal Creek Parkway)

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the accepted the proposal by North Kansas City Schools for the purchase of parkland that includes approximately 36 acres for \$525,000 and authorized the Director or designee to facilitate the transfer of the property on behalf of the City.

Background: Hodge Park is a Kansas City, Missouri Park under the jurisdiction of the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and includes 1,029 acres of land. Meetings were held between City officials and representatives from the North Kansas City School District (NKCSO), about land needed by them to support development of K-8 school. The school population growth in this area of the school district requires a new school in the Hodge Park Area. Approximately 36-acre tract is needed for the school which is in the northeast corner of the park off NE Shoal Creek Parkway

The Board approved Resolution #31239 on May 7, 2019 that asked the Council to enact an election ordinance that would present to the voters of Kansas City on August 6, 2019 Ballot, a question that whether approximate 36 acres of property located generally located in the northeast area of the park off NE Shoal Creek Park be removed from Park and Boulevard System of the City of Kansas City Missouri and empowering the City to convey said real property. On June 6, 2019 the Council Approved Ordinance No. 190376 to allow for the 36 acres to be placed on the November 5, 2019 ballot. The voters approved the sale of the land.

The City of Kansas City had the property appraised by Bliss Associates, LLC, and the date of the report was January 24, 2023. The land had an appraised value of \$425,000. The City began negotiating with North Kansas City School for the transfer of the property. The purchaser will pay the City \$525,000 for land value, staff time and closing costs.

Resolution #32433 – Transportation Alternates (TAP) Grant Award for the Blue River Trail Missouri Pacific Railroad Connector – TAP 3001 (020)

On a motion by Commissioner Gorenc, duly seconded by Commissioner Contreras the Board approved the approved of matching funds in the amount of \$250,000 for the Blue River Trail Missouri Pacific Railroad Connector project and authorized the Director or his designee to execute the necessary

documents from the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on behalf of the Board.

Background: The Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) has awarded funding to the Blue River Trail Missouri Pacific Railroad Connector project in the amount of \$750,000. This will be for the construction of a trail from Martha Truman Road area to a trail operated by Jackson County on the west side of the Blue River. This project requires a local match of \$250,000 that has been funded through PIAC Councilmanic District 6 Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget.

The project will provide recreational and transportation opportunities along the Blue River. This section of the trail is part of the Metro Green Plan and the Trails KC Plan. This section will extend a major trail system in Kansas City, MO. This agreement will require City Council approval because it will require the estimation of revenue for the \$750,000 TAP grant.

Staff recommends Board approval of matching funds in the amount of \$250,000 for the Blue River Trail Missouri Pacific Railroad Connector project and request Board authorization for the Director or his designee to execute the necessary documents from the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on behalf of the Board.

Resolution #32434 - Transportation Alternates (TAP) Grant Award for the Blue River Trail Martha Truman Connector Segment 2 – TAP 3001 (018)

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board approved the local match in the amount of \$250,000 for the Blue River Trail Martha Truman Connector Segment 2 project and authorized the Director or his designee to execute the necessary documents from the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on behalf of the Board.

Background: The Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) has awarded funding to the Blue River Trail Martha Truman Connector Segment 2 project in the amount of \$750,000. This project will provide a pedestrian bridge crossing the Blue River from the Blue River Trail to the Missouri Pacific Railroad Connector trail. This project requires a local match of \$250,000 that has been funded through PIAC Councilmanic District 6 Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget.

The project will provide recreational and transportation opportunities along the Blue River and connects to amenities along Indian Creek, Blue River, and the Missouri Pacific Railroad Corridor trail. This section of the trail is part of the Metro Green Plan and the Trails KC Plan. This section will connect major trail systems in Kansas City, MO. This agreement will require City Council approval because it will require the estimation of revenue for the \$750,000 TAP grant.

Resolution #32435 – Resolution supporting the creation of a Port Improvement District (PID) with Port KC Overlaying Starlight Theatre for the purpose of a 1% Sales and Use Tax

On a motion by Commissioner Contreras, duly seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Board approved Resolution #32435 supporting the creation of a Port Improvement District with Port KC overlaying Starlight Theatre for the purpose of imposing 1% Sales and Use tax.

Background: The Starlight Theatre Association has been operating Starlight Theatre in Swope Park since it opened in the 1950's and has had a long-standing partnership with the association to operate Starlight Theatre. Starlight Theatre Association serves more than 30,000 people annually through its community engagement programming focused on arts, access, education, partnerships and workforce development; and

Starlight Theatre Board of Directors seeks to create an overlay district with Port KC for a Port Improvement District (PID) for the purpose of generating revenues to fund the theater's capital improvements campaign and ongoing capital reinvestments. The creation of the PID will impose no monetary obligations on the City and will assist in generating revenues that will enhance and maintain publicly owned assets.

RESOLUTION #32435

WHEREAS, the Starlight Theatre Association has been operating Starlight Theatre in Swope Park since it opened in the 1950's; and

WHEREAS, the Starlight Theatre Association serves more than 30,000 people annually through its community engagement programming focused on arts, access, education, partnerships and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, the Starlight Theatre Board of Directors seeks to overlay the theatre with a Port Improvement District (PID) with Port KC for the purpose of generating revenues to fund the theater's capital improvements campaign and ongoing capital reinvestments; and

WHEREAS, this project will be a significant additional economic generator for the City by drawing a significant number of new visitors to the Starlight Theatre and the City as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the PID will impose no monetary obligations on the City and will assist in generating revenues that will enhance and maintain publicly owned asset; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS:

That the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners supports the creation of a Port Improvement District overlaying Starlight Theatre for the purpose of imposing a 1% Sales and Use Tax.

I Karmen D. Houston, Secretary to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above is true and exact copy of Resolution #32435, adopted by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners on February 27, 2024, and recorded in the official proceedings of that date:

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____

Karmen D. Houston, Secretary

Public Hearing: Ms. Gayle Hill-Suber came before the Board. Ms. Hill-Suber mentioned the passing of Ms. Wilhemina L. Stewart. She was a very committed person to the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center & Museum and served as a cultural programmer for nearly 25 years under the leadership of Yvonne Wilson. After the death of Director Yvonne Wilson, Ms. Stewart was Interim Director. Ms. Stewart served on the Friends of Bruce R. Watkins Board and threw her illness continued to serve via zoom or conference call. She served with dignity and grace until her departure from this world on Friday, February 23, 2024. This notes 35 years of uninterrupted service to the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center and Museum. To honor the legacy of Ms. Stewart the Friends of Bruce R. Watkins want to name the Children's Gallery inside the center the Wilhelmina L. Stewart Children's Gallery. The Department of Natural Resources and the state have joined in approval to name the Children's Gallery after Ms. Stewart. Today, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners also supported the naming of the Children's Gallery, the Wilhelmina L. Stewart Children's Gallery.

Board Meeting adjourned.


Beth Haden, President
Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners


Karmen Houston, Board Secretary

RESOLUTION #32435

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WHEREAS, this project will be a significant additional economic generator for the City by drawing a significant number of new visitors to the Starlight Theatre and the City as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the PID will impose no monetary obligations on the City and will assist in generating revenues that will enhance and maintain publicly owned asset; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS:

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I Karmen D. Houston, Secretary to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above is true and exact copy of Resolution #32435, adopted by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners on February 27, 2024, and recorded in the official proceedings of that date:

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

BY:


Karmen D. Houston, Secretary