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Pgs. 4
Filed: 03-20-18

Sponsored by: McClure

COUNCIL BILL 2018- 071 RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION

1 RECOGNIZING the Springfield-Greene County Park Board for its exceptional services,
2 facilities and programs throughout its 105-year history, and its resultant
3 induction into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.
4 _____

5
6 WHEREAS, the Park Board which originated in 1913, became known as the
7 Springfield-Greene County Park Board in 1996, is currently celebrating 105 years of
8 outstanding services, facilities and programs, and owns, manages and operates its 104
9 park sites throughout Springfield and the unincorporated areas of Greene County; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the Park Board is the only public park system in the country to
12 manage and operate a professional World Team Tennis Franchise – the Springfield
13 Lasers – bringing world-class tennis stars to Springfield every summer, playing at the
14 Park Board’s Cooper Tennis Complex, which was also recognized in 2000 and 2016 by
15 the United States Tennis Association (“USTA”) as its National Tennis Facility of the
16 year; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the Park Board is an affiliate organization of the United States
19 Olympic Committee’s Community Olympic Development Program (“CODP”), currently
20 offering training and athlete development in four CODP-affiliated sports including tennis,
21 volleyball, ice hockey and archery; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the Park Board manages and operates Cooper Park – including
24 Cooper Tennis Complex, Killian Softball Complex, Lake Country Soccer Fields, and
25 Cooper youth baseball facilities – which is one of the premiere youth sporting facilities in
26 the nation, made possible through land and additional donations by the Harry Cooper
27 Family; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the Park Board typically hosts more than 50 national, regional and
30 state sports tournaments annually, generating \$13–15 million general revenue in
31 Springfield for these events alone, and has been recognized by the Springfield
32 Convention & Visitors Bureau as being a leading economic force for the Springfield
33 Community; and
34

35 WHEREAS, the Park Board owns and operates numerous sport-oriented

36 facilities, including three, 18-hole public golf courses, including Rivercut Golf Course
37 that was recognized as the number one Municipal Golf Course in Missouri in 2009 by
38 Golf Digest, the 9-hole Par-3 Betty Allison at Oscar Blom Golf Course, the Valley Water
39 Mill Equestrian Park, the Springfield Skatepark, and, along with the City, the Mediacom
40 Ice Park; and

41
42 WHEREAS, the Park Board has active partnerships and collaborations with more
43 than 250 institutions, organizations and nonprofits, and receives vital benefits from
44 approximately 79,000 volunteer hours annually; and

45
46 WHEREAS, the Park Board was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame
47 in January of 2018, for its exceptional services, facilities and programs, making it the
48 first municipal parks department in Missouri to receive this gracious honor.

49
50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
51 SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, as follows, that:

52
53 Section 1 – City Council hereby recognizes and honors the Springfield-Greene
54 County Park Board for its 105 years of outstanding and exceptional public service,
55 facilities and programs for the benefit of the City of Springfield and Greene County,
56 Missouri, and expresses its sincere appreciation for its dedication to the citizens of this
57 great region, and further recognizes the Park Board’s induction into the 2018 Class of
58 the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

59
60 Section 2 – This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

61
62 Passed at meeting: _____

63
64
65 _____
66 Mayor

67
68 Attest: _____, City Clerk

69
70 Filed as Resolution _____

71
72 Approved as to form: _____, Assistant City Attorney

73
74 Approved for Council action: _____, City Manager

EXPLANATION TO COUNCIL BILL 2018-071

FILED: 03-20-18

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: City Clerk's Office

PURPOSE: To recognize the Springfield-Greene County Park Board for its exceptional services, facilities and programs throughout its 105-year history, and its resultant induction into the Missouri Sports Halls of Fame.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Park Board, which originated in 1913, became known as the Springfield-Greene County Park Board in 1996, is currently celebrating 105 years of outstanding services, facilities and programs. The Park Board owns, manages and operates 104 park sites throughout Springfield and the unincorporated areas of Greene County, and has documented serving more than 2.9 million active park users annually (does not include passive park use).

The Park Board received national accreditation in 2016 through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies ("CAPRA"), which is a distinction achieved by less than two (2) percent of all parks and recreation agencies throughout the nation. The Springfield-Greene County region was named Missouri Sportstown USA by Sports Illustrated in 2003, and the Park Board was awarded the national Gold Medal Award in 2000 for being recognized as a top parks department in the nation.

Among its world-class sports facilities, the Park Board manages and operates Cooper Park – including Cooper Tennis Complex, Killian Softball Complex, Lake Country Soccer Fields, and Cooper youth baseball facilities – which is one of the premiere youth sporting facilities in the nation, made possible through land and additional donations by the Harry Cooper Family. It also owns and operates numerous sport-oriented facilities, including three, 18-hole public golf courses, including Rivercut Golf Course that was recognized as the number one Municipal Golf Course in Missouri in 2009 by Golf Digest, the 9-hole Par-3 Betty Allison at Oscar Blom Golf Course, the Valley Water Mill Equestrian Park, the Springfield Skatepark and, along with the City, the Mediacom Ice Park.

Also recognized by the Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau as being a leading economic force for the Springfield Community, the Park Board typically hosts more than 50 national, regional and state sports tournaments annually, generating \$13-15 million general revenue in Springfield for these events alone.

The Park Board was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in January of 2018 for its exceptional services, facilities and programs, making it the first municipal parks department in Missouri to receive this gracious honor.

REMARKS: Staff recommends approval.

Recommended by:



Anita Cotter City Clerk

Approved by:



Greg Burris, City Manager