

Recreation and Parks Board

April 13, 2017, meeting

NOTE: The March meeting of the Parks Board was cancelled because of the lack of a quorum.

International Friendship Bell Peace Pavilion (Alan Tatum): Fundraising efforts for the Peace Bell Pavilion have been successful, resulting in pledges and donations of about \$673,000 (goal: \$750,000). The contributions of government agencies and major contractors have exceeded the goals set by the fundraising committee; the committee will continue to receive donations from individual citizens and businesses. The UT landscape architects who are developing conceptual designs for the gardens around the pavilion will make a presentation to the committee soon.

Trail Development (Ray Garrett, Brad Spears, Ken Rueter): Ray is still waiting for the second landowner to sign the easement for the East Fork Poplar Creek Trail to pass through his property. Boy Scouts have built steps on the North Ridge Trail. Haw Ridge has been featured in an online video. Ken noted that *Outside* magazine has recognized the Knoxville area as ninth in a list of “best places to go” for outdoor activities, focusing on South Knoxville.

Director’s Report (Jon Hetrick): Centennial Golf Course continues to lose money, requiring the city to supplement a deficit of \$125,000. An MBA group from UT is developing ideas to bring more revenue to the site and will present suggestions to City Council on April 25. New filters for the outdoor swimming pool have been installed, repairs have been made to the pool to prevent water loss, and the pool’s changing rooms have been cleaned.

~Mary Lou Daugherty, Observer