



City Commission Agenda Item

Meeting Date: April 5, 2022
From: Randy Frazer, City Manager
Item: Adoption Proposal for Wilson Park/Docking Garden Fountain

Purpose: Consider a Resolution approving a recommendation of the Arkansas City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board to initiate an adoption contract for one year with the Friends of Wilson Park for the old fountain in the Docking Memorial Garden at Wilson Park, located at 701 N. Summit St. in Arkansas City. **(Voice Vote)**

Background:

The City Commission on **April 19, 2016**, voted to approve the City's park adoption policy, since re-termed the "Public Land Adoption Policy." A copy of the current policy follows later in this packet.

Seven (7) volunteer members of various City advisory boards, operating under the collective organizational name of "**Friends of Wilson Park**," have applied to "adopt" the old fountain in the Docking Memorial Garden at **Wilson Park**. As you can see on the attached paperwork, they propose to turn the nonfunctional fountain into a series of raised planting beds. They will plant and help to maintain various species of pollinator-friendly plants.

The proposed list of species is also attached and does not include any milkweed plants. These volunteers propose to purchase the plants themselves, with the assistance of community donations, and water them, too.

The **Parks and Facilities Division** has already added brand-new topsoil to the proposed planting area and will provide volunteers with access to water, but otherwise will not be responsible for maintain the planting area.

The Friends of Wilson Park will be assisted by the **Cowley County Association of Retired School Personnel (CCARSP)**, representatives of which attended the **Beautification and Tree Advisory Board** meeting on **February 24** to offer their help with planting and installing Mason bee houses like they have at Chaplin Nature Center.

The Beautification Board voted 3-0 during its regular meeting on **June 24, 2021**, and reaffirmed this vote during discussion at its regular meeting on **October 28, 2021**, at Wilson Park (*both meeting minutes attached*) to recommend the City Commission approve initiating this adoption by the Friends of Wilson Park for one (1) year.

Commission Options:

1. Approve the Resolution.
2. Disapprove the Resolution.
3. Table the Resolution for further consideration.

Approved for Agenda by:

Randy Frazer, City Manager