

**CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY**

City Clerk's Office
118 W. Central Ave., P.O. Box 778
Arkansas City, KS 67005
(620) 441-4409

For Office Use Only:

Adoption # _____

Adoption Year _____

New

☐

Renewal

☐**APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC LAND ADOPTION**

This application must be completed and returned to the City Clerk's Office at the above address on or before December 31st of each year, **unless specifically exempted by order of the City Commission of Arkansas City.**

Before completing this application, please refer to the **City of Arkansas City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board's Public Land Adoption Policy**. A copy of the policy can be provided to you in the City Clerk's Office, if necessary.

Applicant Name: **Mendy Pfannenstiel**Applicant Address: **120 E 5th Avenue, Arkansas City, KS 67005**

City

State

Zip

Telephone Number(s): **(620) 442-1280**Email Address: **arkcitypl@acpl.org**

Non-Profit Affiliation: _____

Organization Name

Address

Contact Name

Phone Number

Government

For-Profit Affiliation: **Arkansas City Public Library 120 E 5th Ave, Arkansas City, KS 67005, 442-1280**

Organization Name

Address

Contact Name

Phone Number

Public Land Desired to Adopt: **Lovie-Watson Park**

Basic Outline of Activities Proposed as Part of Adoption (Note: **Written proposal also required**): **Install a StoryWalk similar to Poplar Walking Trail's around the perimeter of Lovie-Watson.**

Name of Public Land/Park Committee (if any): _____

Copies of the following items must accompany this application:

1. *A written proposal, attached to this application, which explains in detail the sorts of activities the applicant proposes to pursue in helping to beautify, maintain and improve the public land. The Parks and Facilities Division provides a variety of services in each of the City's parks that could be supplemented or replaced by "sweat equity" from volunteers and concerned citizens. While this is not an exhaustive list and each property's needs are somewhat unique, applicants should propose to take on some combination of the following activities: erecting equipment and/or structures; mowing grass and trimming trees; picking up and/or disposing of litter; painting benches, signs, etc.; picking up tree limbs and debris; planting flowers, shrubs and/or trees; purchasing and maintaining new equipment; and watching and/or patrolling to prevent vandalism.*
2. *The application and proposal also should specify what sort of monetary contributions the applicant proposes to provide toward upkeep, maintenance, and improvement of the property. See **Public Land Adoption Policy** for more details on this.*
3. *Please indicate in your proposal or on a separate sheet of paper which dates work best for you and/or your group to meet with the Beautification and Tree Advisory Board and the City Commission. The Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 1 p.m., and the City Commission meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.*

I, **Mendy Pfannenstiel**, have read and understand the City of Arkansas City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board's Public Land Adoption Policy. I further agree to abide by all conditions of this policy and acknowledge it governs my adoption.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Lovie-Watson StoryWalk Proposal

Date: 02/02/2022

Organizations requesting: Arkansas City Public Library & LoveNJoy Girls Club

Contact names: Mendy Pfannenstiel (ACPL) & Robin Henderson (LoveNJoy Girls Club)

Contact email: mendy@acpl.org (ACPL); rmhenderson01@gmail.com (LoveNJoy Girls Club)

Contact phone: (620) 442-1280 (ACPL)

Proposed Project:

Arkansas City Public Library, in partnership with LoveNJoy Girls Club, is seeking to install displays and books for a StoryWalk at Lovie-Watson Park. A StoryWalk is an outdoor reading experience where a children's book is deconstructed and the pages of the book are laminated and placed in a permanent display along a walking trail. It would consist of 25 steel posts with an 18" x 24" Plexiglass display panel. Books would be featured monthly.

Arkansas City Public Library, in partnership with the USD 470 Early Literacy Initiative, installed Ark City's first StoryWalk at the Poplar Walking Trail in January 2021. It has been a successful project, and we are hoping to install another in town at a local park that might better accommodate families and be more accessible.

StoryWalks are popular community projects that promote healthy living through exercise as well as literacy. Not only are there physical health benefits to walking, but there are mental health benefits to being outside, as well. Reading aloud 20 minutes a day to babies, toddlers and preschoolers exposes them to millions of words each year and helps build strong literacy and language skills. Early literacy skills develop most effectively in real-life settings through positive interactions with literacy materials and other people. Too many children – especially those from low-income families – often aren't exposed to consistent interactions that foster language development. Participating in a StoryWalk with a parent or caregiver gives children the opportunity to learn new words, describe things and events, enjoy and tell stories, learn how to follow a sequence and hear and play with sounds and letters in words.

Costs & Funding:

The cost of the displays (purchased from Cardinal Signs in Winfield) is \$4,620. We have already secured a \$2,500 grant from Power of the Purse and hope to secure another grant for \$1,000. The remaining balance will be paid for by ACPL. Our hope is that the Parks & Facilities department will consider physically installing the displays; however, Cardinal Signs could do this work if needed.

Maintenance:

ACPL & LoveNJoy Girls Club will maintain the displays.