Metal Barriers For Park Roads To Be Erected

By LYNN NORMENT

Barricades for roads on the north and south sides of Audubon Park Lake will be ready for use April 12, Memphis Park Commission officials said yesterday.

At the monthly meeting of the Park Commission Board, Harry McLeod, superintendent of planning and research, said construction has already begun on portable metal barriers similar to those now used in Overton Park on weekends.

He said the barricades will be used to restrict automobile traffic on roads on the north and south sides of the lake on Saturdays and Sundays and eventually will be extended to bar any traffic on the roads leading around the lake.

McLeod also said wooden posts are being installed around the park's grassy areas to keep persons from parking on the grass. He said the Memphis Police Department is cooperating with the Park Commission's efforts to restrict automobile traffic in the park on weekends.

The Park Commission and Police Department decision to barricade the road around the lake on weekends came after a confrontation March 23 between police and several dozen people who tried to intervene when police wrote a ticket to an 18-year-old man who had parked on the grass.

The Park Commission Board also decided yesterday to leave the operation of concessions at the commission's facilities under the supervision of M. N. 'Nat' Baxter, who is superintendent of the Fairgrounds Complex.

On Feb. 11, the Park Commission heard proposals from three food service companies for management of concessions at the Memphis Memorial Stadium.

At the suggestion of John Malmo, board member and owner of John Malmo Advertising, Inc., the board decided to continue the operation of the concessions under the commission's supervision and reassign the possibility of contracting company acting with a professional concession to the agenda for the January, 1967, meeting.

The stadium took in \$402,400 from food, tobacco and beer sales for the 1974-75 year. After expenses, the commission was left with a profit of \$117,700.

The Park Commission Board also:

- Passed a resolution endorsing efforts to get the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail through West Tennessee. The trail would be one of seven in the state and extend 115 miles from T. O. Fuller Park in Southwest Memphis to Reelfoot Lake State Park in Northwest Tennessee
- Approved the purchasing of 10 Siberian Ibex mountain goats by Overton Park Zoo at the cost of \$15,000 in cash and \$15,000 worth of animals born in the zoo.
- Heard a \$12,000 request from the Memphis Federation of Musicians for application on expenses for 1975 summer concert series at Overton Park Shell.

C.A. april 4, 1975