

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI
January 10, 2024**

Agenda Item #1: Call Meeting to Order – Sparky Stuckenschneider, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call – Director of Parks & Recreation, Wayne Dunker called roll.

In attendance: Co-Chairs Sparky Stuckenschneider and Tessie Steffens. Members: Bob Dzurick, Bob Kloeppel, Jeanne Miller Wood, Betty Werner, Dave Wehmeyer, Gavin Wooley, Kevin Kreite and Council Liaisons Jeff Patke and Al Behr.

Not in attendance: John Freitag.

Agenda Item #3: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #4: Approval Minutes – November 8 minutes by Bob Kloeppel with a second by Betty Werner.

Agenda Item #5: Parks Report – *given by Wayne Dunker*

- Lafayette Plaza renovation is finally moving forward. KJU poured and stamped the concrete sidewalk last week. Staff backfilled around the sidewalk and started working with Dave Wehmeyer & the Garden Club on a landscaping design plan.
- Staff will be removing the second courtesy boat dock to be rehabbed.
- Staff have been painting and performing other handiwork/woodworking at the Auditorium.
- Staff have been sprucing up Optimist Park – Ash tree removals, honeysuckle & vine clean up.
- Wayne applied for an award through the MO Park & Recreation Association (MPRA) on behalf of Downtown Washington Inc. for the riverfront playground project. The riverfront playground project won. Award presentation by MPRA will be at the February 5 City Council meeting at 7:00pm. Would like all Park Commission members present, if possible.
- Some staff participated in the MPRA Parks Maintenance Rodeo Competition at the St. Charles Family Arena earlier this month. Staff brought home two 2nd place finishes (Skid Steer and Truck & Trailer competitions) and placed 4th overall among 19 teams.

Agenda Item #6: Communications from Audience – None

Agenda Item #7: Old Business

- **Plastic Bag recycling - Update:**
 - Happy to report the plastic bag recycling program has gone amazingly well and to date we have kept 127 pounds of plastic out of the landfill.
- **Miller-Post Nature Reserve Pavilion – update:**
 - Four Rivers Career Center staff and students are open to the idea of building a pavilion at the Miller Post Nature Reserve for visitors to get out of the elements.
 - Parks staff will perform the site grading, concrete work and order the materials and the students will construct the pavilion.

- Staff will start working on ordering materials this summer and the students will start constructing the pavilion in September.

Agenda Items #8: New Business

Sand Plant Gravel Lot Paving Project in Riverfront Park:

- Paving of the lot will go out to bid soon. Prep work performed by Parks & Street Departments.
- Will be running conduit under the asphalt for future parking lot lights.

Steriger Ave./5th St. Busch Creek Greenway Trailhead Project:

- The Street Department is going to tear out the old asphalt road and then pour the new concrete trail. Contractor will install the new light at 5th Street.

Washout Area Along West Riverfront Trail Project:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be repairing the dike and bank washout area near St. Johns Creek on the western end of the West Riverfront Trail.
- The Corps have purchased the rock for the work. Working on getting permission to cross the railroad tracks.
- They will likely tear up a small section of the asphalt trail when bringing in the truckloads of rock and will be responsible for repairing any damages.
- Portion of the West Trail will be closed while the work is performed.

Park Master Plan - RFP:

- A RFP (Request for Proposals) went out earlier this week seeking firms to perform an evaluation of the park system and Department.
- A small selection committee will review the proposals and will recommend a firm to City Council.
- Once a firm is selected, various groups will be involved in the process, including the Parks Commission.

Park Rental Fees Review:

- More information in the upcoming weeks.

Agenda Item #9: Executive Session: None

Agenda Item #10: Next Meeting – February 14, 2024

Agenda Item #11: Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m. by Bob Dzurick with a second by Jeanne Miller-Wood.

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVAL.