

City of Olivette
MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
March 16, 2023 | 7:00 PM

1. **Call To Order** at 7:18 PM; Quorum established.
Present: HANSEN, NEEL, PERSON, RICH
Absent: LEE, BUDKE, HEUREMAN
Also in attendance, but not counted towards a quorum, were:
Council Liaison, Maxine Weil
Parks & Recreation Director, Beverly Tucker Knight.
Parks & Recreation Assistant Director, Don LaChance
2. **Hearing From Citizens** – None
3. **Written Communications** – None
4. On a MOTION by: RICH SECOND by HANSEN the regular meeting minutes of FEBRUARY 15, 2023 were APPROVED (4-0).
5. **Director's Report**
 - a. Youth Baseball – grew 131% with 374 players on 28 teams. Practices begin in March, games in April at Stacy Park fields one and two, and potentially Warson Park field two.
 - b. Spring Break Camp Secret Agent Lab with Mad Science Mar 20-24 is full with a wait list.
 - c. The second PuzzlePalooza will be Apr 1, the final team spot is expected to fill.
 - d. Camp registration is progressing well.
 - e. Holi Festival 2023 on March 4 drew a record crowd in excess of 4,000 people. The event ran smoothly, but the parking and traffic overwhelmed the surrounding streets and the Police Department's resources. The first post event Hot Wash was held this week with the Police and Parks & Recreation Departments. Options are being explored for alternative parking options for future years. If alternate parking is not identified, then the event may need to relocate to a larger park in the St Louis region
 - f. Sweet Reads Mobile Library inaugural visit to Stacy Park is Thursday, March 30.
 - g. Park Crew continues to move into the new Park Operations Center.
 - h. The City Council approved the purchase of a new UTV, delivery will be this summer.
 - i. The final Weed Warrior event of the season on March 11 repaired sections of the Cottonwood Hiking trail, removed honeysuckle sprouts from previously cleared areas, and cut down new sections.
 - j. Park Crews began spring ball field prep, and leaning, repairing, painting, testing, and reassembling all of the park restrooms, drinking fountains, and water features for April openings.
 - k. The Recreation Team attended three intensive days of software in preparation for Five Oaks on Warson opening.
 - l. Personnel Update
 - i. Assistant Director Don LaChance's last day is Thursday, March 16.
 - ii. Edward Kastner begins as Limited Equipment Operator on April 3.
6. **City Council Report**

Update from City Council Liaison, Mayor Maxine Weil

 - a. City Manager Barbara Sondag's last day with the City is April 3. A special tribute to the retiring CM is Mar 28 at the City Council meeting. Finance Director, Darren Mann, was appointed Interim City Manager. Stone Consulting managing recruitment process for the new City Manager
 - b. Olive Crossing has begun proving a monthly dashboard to the City Council on its construction.
 - c. Council received a GRG Centennial Greenway status update at its last meeting from Public Works Director, Bruce McGregor.

- d. The City Council hosted the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis on February 23rd.
- e. The Chamber of Commerce is hosting a dinner to honor Public Safety personnel.

7. Parks & Recreation Commission Annual Work Plan

- a. No meetings were held.

8. Park Master Plan Implementation

- a. Five Oaks and Warson Park
 - i. Project Dashboard and construction photos were shown.
 - ii. Demolition of the old community center began March 6.
 - iii. PARC Commissioners will tour Five Oaks on Warson construction site on Mar 17.
- b. Indian Meadows, Irv Zeid, Stacy, and Villa Parks
 - i. Only minor Punchlist Items remain including the splash pad valves and water services, and the gate at the dog park.
 - ii. The Stacy Park Mosaic Project tile installation will begin the last week of March. The official dedication will be at Party in the Park on May 6.

9. Future Agenda Items

- a. Annual Work Plan Commissioner Reports-ongoing
- b. Park Master Plan Implementation- ongoing
- c. PARC Commissioner Park Walks
- d. ACA Cricket Pitch Donation
- e. Park Dedications & Celebrations
- f. Time Capsule

10. Upcoming Dates of Importance

March 20-24	Spring Break Camp with Mad Science
March 30	Sweet Reads Mobile Library at Stacy Park
March 30	Indigenous Herbs of North America lecture (STLHS & OIB)
April 1	Puzzle Palooza
April 9	Olivette in Bloom Kick-Off Breakfast
April 15	Pavilions and Restrooms open for the season
April 19	Parks & Recreation Commission meeting
Sat Apr 29	Starry Night @ Stacy Park with STL Astronomical Society
April 30	Native Plant Sale, Olivette in Bloom
May 6	Party in the Park
May 20-21	City-wide Yard Sale

On a MOTION by HANSEN, SECOND by RICH the meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm (4-0)

Creating Community Through People, Parks & Programs

