



**MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

April 19, 2023 | 7:00 PM

1. **Call To Order** at 7:05 PM; Quorum established.
Present: BUDKE , HANSEN, BUDKE, HEUREMANN, LEE, PERSON, RICH
Absent: NEEL
Also in attendance, but not counted towards a quorum, were:
Council Liaison, Rick Knox
Interim City Manager, Darren Mann
Parks & Recreation Director, Beverly Tucker Knight
2. **Hearing From Citizens** – None
3. **Written Communications** – None
4. On a MOTION by: HANSEN SECOND by RICH the regular meeting minutes of March 15, 2023 were APPROVED (6-0).
5. **Director's Report**
 - a. Recreation Division Update
 - i. Youth Baseball is underway. After the first week, all Warson Park games were relocated to Stacy Park due to construction impacts. The dormant field three was revived for T-Ball and Micro Baseball.
 - b. Spring Break Camp- contracted with Mad Science with Secret Agent Lab, held at the City Center.
 - c. PuzzlePalooza- second event was held due to popularity of first event, 52 participants on 11 teams. Staff are planning more and larger events at new Five Oaks on Warson.
 - d. Summer Camp Update-registration is ongoing
 - e. Sweet Reads- STL County mobile library inaugural visit Mar 30to Stacy Park was a success and County will visit monthly if attendance remains stable. Next visit Apr 27.
 - f. Park Division Update-busy season with park restrooms reopening for season, irrigation and drinking fountain turn-ons. Stacy Park pathway section was repaired in collaboration between Public Works and Parks. All ballfields were prepped for baseball season. Seasonal mowing commenced with mowing vendor, some areas are being left long at Stacy and Warson Park in April to provide food sources for emerging pollinators. The Horticulturist is tracking new landscaping as it emerges from dormancy. Any that did not survive the winter will be replaced under warranty. Staff is supporting Olivette in Bloom with garden prep for the growing season.
 - g. Olivette in Bloom- the new OIB Welcome Garden at Stacy Park is planted; new Veterans Plaza Garden will be planted later in April. The first lecture sponsored by OPRD and OIB was held at the City Center on March 30. More lectures are in

the works. The OIB season kicks off on Saturday, April 16 with a welcome breakfast and garden clean-up.

- h. The Stacy Park Mosaic is complete! Dedication will be at Party in the Park.
- i. Personnel Update-

6. City Council Report

Update from City Council Liaison, Rick Knox, on behalf of Mayor Maxine Weil

- a. The City Council received the initial report on their Diversity, Equity and Inclusion survey of staff and council and will follow will trainings to target areas for improvement.
- b. May 18 is the Community Vision Workshop at the City Center as part of the Olivette Comprehensive Plan Update to guide the City for the next 15-20 years. Commissioners are encouraged to attend and take the survey.
- c. The Council is working with an outside firm to select the new City Manager. First round interviews, second round coming up, a decision is anticipated in June 2023.

7. Parks & Recreation Commission Norms

PARC Commission Norms and Ethics for Public Positions were distributed. No action was taken.

8. PARC Annual Election

No action was taken, preference stated to align Chair & Vice Chair selection with appointment terms. Elections will be rescheduled for August 2023.

9. Park Master Plan Implementation

- a. Monthly update on implementation of the Parks Master Plan though Prop C funding.
- b. Five Oaks and Warson Park
 - i. Project Dashboard- update on budget and current activities.
 - ii. Old Community Center demolition is complete. Surveying is complete for play areas going in on the old building site it complete, grading for the new splashpad is starting next week.
- c. Indian Meadows, Irv Zeid, Stacy, and Villa Parks
 - i. Punchlist and warranty Item work continues. Water features are last major pieces to be completed at Villa and Indian Meadows Parks.
 - ii. The dog park grass is growing well, the gate access needs updating, and the mesh within the grass is proving slow to dissipate. The dog park is anticipated to open in June.
- d. Veterans Plaza- irrigation was not winterized by contractor, repairs are needed.

10. Annual Work Plan and Commissioner Reports

- a. Park Openings- Travis is working with Recreation staff on Party in the Park. Staff will involve Commissioners in planning the other park openings.
- b. Reports on any Commission working group meetings- Stacey & Jim met on template for park intercept walks.
- c. Annual Work Plan review – Sue and Kisha were added to the Indian Meadows Park Opening and Rob was added to Warson Park.

11. 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

12. Upcoming Dates of Importance

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| Sat Apr 29 | Starry Night @ Stacy Park with STL Astronomical Society |
| April 22 | DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day City Center |
| April 27 | Sweet Reads Bookmobile Stacy Park |
| April 29 | Native Plant Sale, Olivette in Bloom City Center |
| May 6 | Party in the Park Stacy Park |
| May 12 | Olivette Firefighters Bowling Fundraiser Olivette Lanes |
| May 18 | Community Vision Workshop -Olivette Comprehensive Plan Update |
| May 20-21 | City-wide Yard Sale |
| May 24 | Blood Drive City Center |
| May 17 | Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting City Center |
| June 20 | Olivette Night Out |

On a MOTION by HEUERMANN, SECOND by LEE the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm (6-0)

Creating Community Through People, Parks & Programs

