

**St. Charles County Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
Quail Ridge Park
Shelter #3
May 18, 2022**

Members Present: Yvonne Deyo, Nathan Goff, Larry Henderson, Will Klein, Ruth Mellor and Bill Wallace

Absent: Will Klein, Terry Hollander, Shelley Machens, Eric Montgomery & Robert Wohler.

Department Staff Present: Ryan Graham and Mary Glascock

Meeting was called to order at 3:03 pm by Chairperson Ruth Mellor.

Public comments were given by Shirley Pecoraro. Shirley gave an update on activities taking place at the Heritage Museum and Lindenwood Park.

A motion was made by Larry Henderson to approve the February 9, 2022 minutes as written. Will Klein provided a 2nd. All in favor 6/0 Minutes approved.

Board Communications:

Department report – The Heritage Museum’s new display, “The American Revolutionary War of the West”, will be opening with a VIP event on Friday, May 20. The public opening will be on Saturday, May 21 from 10 am -5 pm.

Riverside Landing boat ramp will be opening on Tuesday, May 24 and camping will open on Friday, May 27. Due to shipping issues sites will not have table or fire rings. They are currently scheduled to ship in June.

The Brew Fest is scheduled for Saturday, May 21 at the Boone Home from 12 – 5 pm. Tickets are still available on-line or by calling the office.

The splash pad at Veterans Tribute Park is opening tomorrow, May 19.

MO Bluff’s entrance road is being asphalted, the low ropes course and camping are complete. The park should be opening by mid June.

Oglesby Park has officially become the name of the new park in Foristell/Wentzville area. The park opening is scheduled for July 23 and will include a playground, restrooms, shelter and a 10-12 acre lake. Staff and Contractors are currently working hard to get things done.

The New Melle Maintenance Shed is scheduled for Council approval on the May 31 agenda.

Sidewalks are being installed at the Broemmelsiek and Indian Camp Creek new playgrounds and the New Melle shelter.

Flatwoods access has become very popular since opening.

The shelter at Hays should be completed by the end of June, early July. Stubb Road remains closed during construction.

Contractors are still working on the parking lot at Kinetic. Once again, the department will be hosting the Red Bull event on Aug 6. This year we will also be hosting the US Championship Qualifier on August 7. Walmart is donating 300 bikes for the events.

We are experiencing staffing shortages again. Currently the department has 12 open positions. However, park attendance is up. Park attendance is currently at 1,403,502. That's 214,158 more than last year.

The department is scheduled to change our reservation system from Active to RecTrac on August 1, 2022.

Board Member Discussion:

Nathan inquired about Bekin going to Bentonville AK, was it work or personal? Bekin recently attended a Trail Building seminar in Bentonville, AK.

Nathan asked if there will be an RC track at Kinetic? There will be a combo RC/Big Wheel track in the future.

Will commented on the public's love of the disc golf courses and was wondering if the County would consider putting in a youth disc golf course. These courses are smaller with less distance between the baskets.

Will is a member of a F3 Group in St. Charles. This is a group of men that get together in the early morning (5am) and workout. Would the County be interested in putting in any type of workout area in one of the parks that this group or any other group could use for exercise? Ryan will look into it.

Larry inquired about the condition of the schoolhouse for Oglesby. I will require some rehab and rebuild but is usable.

Nathan informed the board and Ryan about some emergency locators that have been placed in some parks in St. Louis County. Nathan knows a firefighter who is part of this program and would be glad to share Ryan's information with him if we are interested.

Park Foundation Report – The Foundation met in February and April. They are still looking for additional members. The application can be found on the Parks Department website under Parks Foundation. During the April meeting it was determined that the money was not making

enough interest in the bank account, so it was voted to put some funds in investments. Members are working on finalizing the strategic plan and getting QR Codes on the Foundation banners and posters.

Old Business:

Are the parks in reserve still on a schedule for development. As new properties are acquired the schedule keeps changing based on available funds.

New Business: Presentation by Shane.

Ryan introduced Shane Creasy, Natural Resource Aquatic Supervisor. He has been with us since last November. Shane was previously employed by the MO Department of Conservation. Shane and his helper, Bradly oversee all our lakes and waterways.

Shane shared a handout with Board members. The aquatic division is starting from step 1 with trying to get our blue ways open for public use. They have been busy removing log jams and floating debris, installing access points and trash traps, working with landowners and municipalities to promote water shed stewardship and providing public information on these blue ways.

Dardenne Creek blue way Phase 1 will be from Riverside Landing to Lakeside 370 Park with 3.5 miles of paddling and continue to Brown Road Park for a total of 4.2 miles. Phase 2 will go from Brown Park upstream to Woodlands Sport Complex for 3.6 miles then another 1.2 miles to Bluebird Meadow Park

The Big Creek watershed will have access points at Indian Camp Creek, Mette Road site in Wentzville, Flatwoods and Cuivre Island public boat ramp will be the takeout point.

Agenda items for July 2022 meeting – Presentation by a Park Staff member.

A motion was made by Will Klein to adjourn meeting. A second was provided by Yvonne Deyo. All in favor 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:07 pm.