



Parks & Rec Committee Meeting Minutes 9/13/2014

Minutes taken by Kimberly Cameron

Attendees:	Gary Stein	Laura Schellenberg	Kimberly Cameron	John Gruender
	Guy Tilman	Darcy Capstick	Don Collins	Bill Dowdy
	Alan Pollite	John Nations	Cindy Lau	

Staff Liaison:	Tom McCarthy	Committee Chair:	Michelle Keesal
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Meeting began at 8:32am

Approval of Minutes

Bill Dowdy, 2nd by Darcy Capstick

Ambassador Program (Tricia is out, reviewed progress)

Tom spoke about expanding the program through Friends of the Parks

- Filling out the forms at events
 - o Market our parks, opportunity to share what's happening with the Parks, etc.

Opening of River's Edge – Discussed dated or timing of the grand opening, May was agreed as good timing

- Cindy suggested Boats or Kayak on the lake, to incorporate the water
- Tom mentioned there is a Fishing Derby for next year at the lake behind the amphitheatre
 - o Rivers Edge is not ready for fishing, still determining if the lake is conducive to spawning, requires annual stocking, etc.
- John N. suggested incorporating the event with state wide fishing day

Volunteers Needed

Taste of St. Louis

- Volunteers needed, details are incomplete for parking, where to go, etc. Karri will follow up with everyone via email
- Volunteers will be at the Information Booth (2 per shift)

Park Reviews

Kimberly reported on Dog Park

Cindy reported on Riparian Trail, saw 9 people (several were older). Bridge gets very slick after rain, moss on the surface. Traction needed for safety

Municipal Park Grant – Update from Tom

- Central Park playground is in need of new ground surface (similar to what is at the Miracle Field)
- Looking for something similar to Faust Park playground
- \$350K is needed (grant is a maximum of \$520K)
- Attendees agreed that Tom should move forward with seeking \$350K grant

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Fall/Winter projects for PRCAC

Michelle revisited the PRCAC priority list of projects to identify the focus for the rest of the year

- 1) Land Acquisition needs
- 2) Evaluate ideas for Parks Dept.
- 3) Water Activities
- 4) Special Support to the Parks Dept.
- 5) Ambassador Program

- Assist with Rivers Edge opening (May 3rd & 4th, 2015)
- Land Acquisition – There needs to be a structured plan when evaluating land

Tom mentioned there is a need for more Pavilions and connecting trails

Guy suggested we need to clarify “Needs” by focusing on Friends of the Parks Program

- What is the level or goal?
- Suggested outreach to neighborhood trustees to reach residents
- Survey residents to know what their Wants and Needs

With more data, our focus will be based on the needs and voice of the residents.

Michelle suggested the new marketing could attend our next meeting so we can discuss some of these ideas

Other input was to have a form be put into the Chesterfield Citizen for residents to offer their input along with social media

Staff Report

Update on Taste

½ Marathon coming up

Back stopper Palooza 10/4

Frozen (9/12) had about 500 people

Taste of Trucktober

Multi-Sports fields at CVAC increased usage by 8,000 hours over a year ago

Fields are sought after for tournaments as they drain quickly (tournaments are less likely to be cancelled)

Construction Update

- Rivers Edge progress
- New signs at CVAC
- Beautification project at Old Hwy. 141/Olive Road (begins week of 9/15)

New Business:

Darcy - The new National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) President, Mr. Collin O'Mara, wants to visit our NWF Certified Community Wildlife Habitat as his FIRST official Certified Community Wildlife Habitat visit

Date is 9/24 9:50 AM to 11:30 AM, light lunch reception thereafter. He took office in July. Chesterfield is the first and only NWF Certified Community Wildlife Habitat in our State and the 9th in our Country (now 170+ and growing). He recognizes the quality model that Chesterfield has been 'growing' since Spring, 2005 (date Certified), and wants to showcase what we've done for native ecology focused on pollinators, especially the Monarch Butterfly most recently. He will be holding a 'press friendly' initial meeting at City Hall (a NWF Certified Habitat), go outside with city officials and distinguished officials accompanying him to plant milkweed, take a tour of some NWF-Certified Sites: Central Park and our oldest NWF-Certified Schoolyard Habitat the Butterfly House; and, return to City Hall for a light lunch reception where he will meet some of the many Community Habitat Team Partners who help assure that Chesterfield's NWF Certified Habitat continues growing! Michele Keesal, Chair of PRCAC, was invited to the reception on the behalf of the members of PRCAC.

Tom has a conflict in October. All agreed to move up the meeting to 8am. Meeting adjourned 9:35am

Next meeting is October 11th at 8am.