



Park Board Agenda
Monday, September 26, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Kirkwood Community Center
111 South Geyer Rd.



- I. **CITIZEN COMMENTS** *(See instructions on the previous page for offering a comment. The public comment portion of the meeting is an opportunity to hear comments from citizens. It is not a question and answer session and the Park Board will not respond to comments or answer questions during the comment period. The Chairperson may refer any matter to staff or hold discussion during the "Other Matters" section of the meeting).*
- II. **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**
- III. **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS/REPORTS**
 - a. Committee Updates
- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Strategic Goals Update
 - b. Park Funding
- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. ¾ Ton Truck
 - b. Other Matters
- VI. **SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS, HEAD RANGER AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORTS**
- VII. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
- VIII. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting – October 17, 2022

Staff Liaison: Kyle Henke. Phone: 314.822.5856 Email: henkekk@kirkwoodmo.org

Chair: Ellen Edman

Accommodation: The City of Kirkwood is interested in effective communication for all persons. Persons requiring an accommodation to attend and participate in the meeting should contact the City Clerk at 314-822-5802 at least 48 hours before the meeting. With advance notice of seven calendar days, the City of Kirkwood will provide interpreter services at public meetings for languages other than English and for the hearing impaired. Upon request, the minutes from this meeting can be made available in an alternate format, such as a CD, by calling 314-822-5802.



**Park Board
Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 15, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Kirkwood Community Center Room 202**



IN ATTENDANCE: The meeting was called order at 7:00 p.m. with President Ellen Edman, Steve Ostrowski, Alvin Reid, Nate Wurtz, Joseph Yancey, Kathy Paulsen and Barbara Feiner and Staff Liaison Kyle Henke and Curt Carron in attendance.

I. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

II. APPROVAL OF JULY 18, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

A motion made by Barbara Feiner to approve the July 18, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Nate Wurtz. Motion approved unanimously.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Partnership Committee – Will be meeting soon.
- b. Foundation Committee – Has a meeting planned in September.
- c. Finance Committee – Ellen asked when the next financial report would be and discussed the timing of financial reports in the future.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Kirkwood Park Trail Maintenance – Trail Management Objectives
Kyle presented a draft of a trail management plan and asked the Trail Committee to meet to discuss it.
- b. Strategic Goals Update
Ellen proposed a 4 point set of goals for the following year. 1. Support the Staff 2. Assist with foundation formation 3. Master Plan 4. Nature Preservation plan
The Board discussed these goals.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Park Funding – Reversal of the Voluntary Reduction
A motion make by Kathy Paulsen to support City Council collecting the Park Property Taxes at the legal maximum amount, reversing the voluntary reduction. Seconded by Alvin Reid. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS REPORT

- a. Curt discussed the Superintendent of Parks' report.

VII. DIRECTORS REPORT

- a. Greentree Festival – Greentree Festival Committee will have their last meeting soon.
- b. 144 Pedestrian Bridge – Work has started on the access ramps.
- c. Staff Updates – Kim Hedgpeth has resigned and Brenton Ward has been promoted to Recreation Superintendent.



**Park Board
Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 15, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Kirkwood Community Center Room 202**



IN ATTENDANCE: The meeting was called order at 7:00 p.m. with President Ellen Edman, Steve Ostrowski, Alvin Reid, Nate Wurtz, Joseph Yancey, Kathy Paulsen and Barbara Feiner and Staff Liaison Kyle Henke and Curt Carron in attendance.

I. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

II. APPROVAL OF JULY 18, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

A motion made by Barbara Feiner to approve the July 18, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Nate Wurtz. Motion approved unanimously.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Partnership Committee – Will be meeting soon.
- b. Foundation Committee – Has a meeting planned in September.
- c. Finance Committee – Ellen asked when the next financial report would be and discussed the timing of financial reports in the future.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Kirkwood Park Trail Maintenance – Trail Management Objectives
* Kyle presented a draft of a trail management plan and asked the Trail Committee to meet to discuss it.
- b. Strategic Goals Update
Ellen proposed a 4 point set of goals for the following year. 1. Support the Staff 2. Assist with foundation formation 3. Master Plan 4. Nature Preservation plan
The Board discussed these goals.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Park Funding – Reversal of the Voluntary Reduction
A motion make by Kathy Paulsen to support City Council collecting the Park Property Taxes at the legal maximum amount, reversing the voluntary reduction. Seconded by Alvin Reid. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS REPORT

- a. Curt discussed the Superintendent of Parks' report.

VII. DIRECTORS REPORT

- a. Greentree Festival – Greentree Festival Committee will have their last meeting soon.
- b. I44 Pedestrian Bridge – Work has started on the access ramps.
- c. Staff Updates – Kim Hedgpeth has resigned and Brenton Ward has been promoted to Recreation Superintendent.



VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

None

Next meeting will be September 26, 2022

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

DRAFT

From the desk of:
Kyle Henke, Director of Parks and Recreation
111 S. Geyer Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122
Phone: 314-822-5856 Fax: 314-984-5931
E-mail: henkekk@kirkwoodmo.org



Memo

To: Kirkwood Park Board
From: Kyle Henke
Date: September 21, 2022
Re: September 26, 2022 Agenda Memo

Committee Assignments/Reports

Committees – A Partnership Committee meeting was held on September 20. An update will be provided regarding the most recent memorial application. The Trail Committee met on September 12 and an update will also be provided.

Unfinished Business

Strategic Goal Update – This represents the monthly opportunity to provide updates on any actions taken regarding the strategic plan. After last's months Park Board meeting a condensed list of strategic goals were agreed upon. The four goals are to support staff, assist with foundation formation, focus on a new Master Plan process and environmental and sustainable initiatives within the parks.

Park Funding – City Council approved the reversal of the 1998 voluntary property tax reduction. Park operations are expected to see an annual increase in funding up to an estimated \$350,000. Staff is recommending a meeting with the Park Board Finance Committee to discuss future designation of funds that align with the Park Board's Strategic Goals mentioned above.

New Business

¾ Ton Truck – The Park Board approved the Capital purchase of a ¾ Ton Truck during the budget process last year. Current inflation continues to increase the price to purchase new vehicles. A budgeted amount of \$41,000 was originally approved.

The cost to purchase an appropriately configured ¾ Ton truck with a lift gate is now \$49,811.

The Park Board also approved the purchase of a Zero Turn mower earlier this fiscal year and saved \$8,356 on that purchase. An additional savings \$2,260 was accomplished after the purchase of the tank sprayers. Using the savings from these two projects and the original budgeted amount, can be combined to purchase the truck.

The first suggested motion would be to approve a transfer of \$8,000 from PF2308, Zero Turn Riding Mower and \$811 from PF2309, Sprayer Tank to PF2307, ¾ Ton Pickup Truck, in account 201-5101-452-7505.

The second suggested motion is to approve the purchase of a ¾ Ton Truck from Joe Machens Ford in the amount of \$45,443 (pursuant to State of Missouri Cooperative Contract) for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Super Cab Truck for the Parks Department and authorizing and directing the Director of Procurement to issue a purchase order that will also include a lift gate to be installed after the purchase for a total of \$49,811.

Maintenance Report – Curt's report is include as well as the Ranger report. Kylie Christanell's, Volunteer Coordinator, report is also included in the packet.

Director's Report – My report will include information on the following:

- Greentree Festival Recap
- Master Plan Review

MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR AUGUST/SEPT 2022

For the period August 16 through Sept 25

TREE REMOVAL:

Wind damage and hot/dry conditions caused half the white oak above the lake path to fail and fall. The condition of the remaining tree was such that it warranted complete removal of the tree. It was an immense oak and removal/recovery ate up a full 2 days for 4 people. In the end it was all removed, ground out, and graded and seeded with a straw blanket over the top. The tree was not on our list of "things to watch for" and the spontaneous drop was related to tree size and weather conditions.

AVERY UNPAVED TRAIL:

We delivered and spread 3 yards of limestone fines to the trail around the back of Avery Park. Kylie and volunteers assisted by combing the fines into place. We then rolled it and moved on.

OPERATION CLEANSTREAM:

The river project was attended well but light this year in our vicinity. The organizer had a tent erected on the opposite side of the main parking area instead of using the pavilion which was already rented for the day. The tent and weather worked out very well for them. 4 dumpsters were delivered, 2 by Kirkwood and 2 by others. The tires collected only filled one dumpster this year and were removed by a tire recycler. The other dumpsters were about half full of trash. Volunteers elsewhere also brought debris to Greentree for collection. The Emmenegger crew that worked the park and riverfront collected and compiled for us to pick up and drop off with recycling.

THE REMAINDER OF THE REPORT IS ATTACHED AS OUR GREENTREE FESTIVAL TASK LIST BEGINNING MONDAY SEPT 12 THROUGH THE 21ST:

2022 GREENTREE FESTIVAL - TASK SCHEDULE

Monday Sept. 12

- raise pinoaks along main walk
- install asphalt ramp on Geyer
- finish deadwooding
- finish mowing
- edge sidewalk from Geyer to crosswalks
- mulch pinoaks @ Geyer/Jefferson

Tuesday Sept. 13

- open heads 123
- Pickup message boards from Glendale PW
- finish building stages
- deliver/erect 2 layers of scaffolding to INFO booth
- Kyle marking A/C area in afternoon

Load/deliver 4x8 stages to Fiddler, Kids Day,
level/secure/repair all stages all sites
load/deliver Genie lift to #2 Mechanical

Wednesday Sept. 14

trashrun
clean/stock EMM/GTP RRs
STREET marking A/C
Hang Kids Day banner-Tct fence @ Geyer/Adams
Kyle marking food/game/info booths
Check electric for info booth
erect 40x40 site 4, 30x40 site 13,
erect 30x40 Fiddlers tent

Thursday, Sept. 15

set up pkg areas-no tape
load tables and chairs from REQ sheet
deliver/spread cans around park
line out dia2/3 booth and DA pkg
load reviewing stand (4 stage,12 chairs,2 tables)
have Tct lot swept a/w/a Geyer curblin and CC curblines
setup INFO booth
build sandwich boards for shuttle signs
Move picnic tables- crowd tent site 4, Fiddlers tent
deliver firewood to FLKLF
Deliver/setup reviewing stand at train station

Friday Sept.16

open/stock heads
Put up popup canopies according to matrix
Blow amph, wings, walks
Rinse out fill deliver water tank for FLKLF
load rest of tables
deliver/spread cans thruout park
deliver reviewing stand
receive golf carts from Midwest Carts
deliver chairs
deliver tables
set up reviewing stand
p/u radios from Wireless USA
put out 1st aid signs (Bmass)
position portable toilets
install panels by main stages
Set up dog show circle-stakes/flags
Setup dog Frisbee competition field Dia 4 RF

Set up canopy and chairs at Meramec shuttle stop
put out restriction signs and info signs
put up INFO banner
clean out waterfall/lake scum
Blow main walkways/plaza/amphwalk/amphitheater
Trashrun-all parks
Blow/clean heads at EMNGR/RVRSD pavilions
Blow Tennis shop/Ranger office walks
Turn on flood lights at amphitheater
P/u bunting-wrap entertainment/kids day stages
Erect Kids Day canopies
Trashrun-A&C area
Check rutting along walks
spread cans at the bottom of 13/top of Amph
put 12 tables at top of amph/bottom of 13

Friday Afternoon Sept 16

Put 2 tables/4 chairs from Frisbee in 7502 for Sat. a.m.

Bring in INFO WEST generator after booth is vacated

TRASH TRASH TRASH

Trashtruck hopper facing gate is trash; facing shed is recycling

5 golf cars into building-FLKLF cart from Fiddlers tent

Rangers will switch off message boards at watertower and Meramec

2 black Rubbermaid containers from INFO MAIN to tennis closet

10 rental radios in charger on file cabinet-7Rangers 3Committee

Fill FLKLF water container if low

TRASH TRASH TRASH

Check wine garden for boxes and bottles-goes in recycling truck

Tear down dog show flags and stakes- stakes to shop, flags in trashbags to
mezzanine

Bleachers to Dia 4 bleacher pad

Park 7502 outside shop

SATURDAY SEPT. 17 MORNING SHIFT

Turn on message boards

Gas up all carts and gators

Heads 1/2/3/GT/GrTh/Emmy/MPMP-permits at GT,MPMP & EMMY

Check portable toilets, Check portable sinks serviced at 4AM

Check paper towel racks; if wet change them out

Blow pavilions @ GT/MPMP/EMM if necessary

Rake INFO MAIN booth area if needed

Setup canopies as assigned at Kids Day-Laura 10am??

Trashrun through A/C, main walk, FLKLF, rest of park

Rake around beer booths/sidewalk mall

Put bunting out on stages

Deliver tables/chairs to Essex KHS lot

Check for rutting
Check water tank at FLKLF
Setup Kids Day tables/canopies when they arrive 10am??
Blow off stages
Wrap stages in bunting before parade, entertainment and Kids Day events
P/u 2 tables 4 chairs from Essex high school entrance after parade
Take 4 seat golf cart to Fiddlers tent
Take 2 seat golf cart to INFO, park across at 1st Aid site
take 5g buckets of dirt-check A/C,FLKLF,F/G/I areas for divots
run generator to INFO West booth
take care of actual wet spot issues
SATURDAY NIGHT MEET PORTABLE TOILET SERVICE TRUCK AT TENNIS
COURT LOT-MOVE WITH THEM TO ENSURE ALL TOILETS/SINKS ARE
SERVICED THRU-OUT THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS

Saturday Afternoon Sept 17

Bring in INFO WEST generator after booth is vacated
TRASH TRASH TRASH
Trashtruck hopper facing gate is trash; facing shed is recycling
5 golf cars into building-FLKLF cart from Fiddlers tent
Rangers will switch off message boards at watertower and Meramec
2 black Rubbermaid containers from INFO MAIN to tennis closet
10 rental radios in charger on file cabinet-7Rangers 3Committee
Fill FLKLF water container when low
TRASH TRASH TRASH
Check wine garden for boxes and bottles-goes in recycling truck
Park 7502 outside shop
Bring full waste cooking oil containers to yard-put on curb
Empty ash cans into backhoe bucket-saturate with water
Plug in electric cart on charge

SUNDAY, SEPT. 18 MORNING SHIFT

Turn on message boards
Heads 1/2/3/GT/GrTh/Emmy/MPMP-permits at Greentree & Emmenegger
Gas up all carts
Check portable toilets, Check portable sinks serviced at 4am
Check paper towel racks; if wet change them out
Open EMNGR/RVRSD/MPMP/Grants heads and Quarry gate
Blow pavilions @ GT/EMMY
Trashrun EVERYWHERE in Kirkwood Park
Open Powder Valley gate Sunday ONLY
Set up INFO booth
Rake INFO booth
Trashrun through A/C, Bag all trashcans
Rake around beer booths/sidewalk mall

Check water tank at FLKLF
take care of actual wet spot issues
Clean amphitheater for daily entertainment
Blow main entertainment stage
Deliver 4 seat golf cart to Fiddlers tent
Take 2 seat golf cart to INFO, park across at 1st Aid site
Unlock gates on Courts 5-8 at end of festival Sunday night
Bring full waste cooking oil containers to yard-put on curb
Empty ash cans into backhoe bucket-saturate with water
Run generator to INFO WEST booth

Sunday Afternoon Sept 18

Bring in INFO WEST generator after booth is vacated
TRASH TRASH TRASH
Trashtruck hopper facing gate is trash; facing shed is recycling
5 golf cars into building-FLKLF cart from Fiddlers tent
Rangers will switch off message boards at watertower and Meramec
2 black Rubbermaid containers from INFO MAIN to tennis closet
10 rental radios in charger on file cabinet-7Rangers 3Committee
Fill FLKLF water container when low
TRASH TRASH TRASH
Check wine garden for boxes and bottles-goes in recycling truck
Park 7502 outside shop
Bring full waste cooking oil containers to yard-put on curb
Empty ash cans into backhoe bucket-saturate with water
Plug in electric cart on charge

Services	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Park Enf. Contacts	29	20	61	55	63	71	75	63					437
Public Contacts	247	154	134	159	145	210	320	345					1714
PD Assist	3	4	3	4	3	5	4	7					33
PD Dispatched Calls	1	1	4	2	4	7	5	5					29
Interpretive	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	31					57
Reported Maint.	2	3	4	3	3	2	6	8					31
Injuries	2	2	1	4	2	3	2	1					17
Wildlife Related	0	0	1	0	3	2	2	0					8
Recovered Property	2	1	3	6	5	3	6	4					30
First Aid	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2					6
Missing Persons	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1					3

Summary of Activities

- In early August, Ron Hall was certified as a Basic Archery Instructor by NASP (National Archery in Schools Program). The certification was provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Archery classes are in the works and will be in collaboration with the recreation staff.
- In mid-August Ron Hall assisted recreation staff members with the youth outdoor skills day by doing a lesson on knot tying. The youth also learned archery, fishing, and fire starting skills as well as listening to a presentation from the St. Louis Orienteering Club.
- August concluded the Hot Dog Dayz of summer in the parks. Ron Hall was able to attend a few of these very popular and well attended events over the summer.

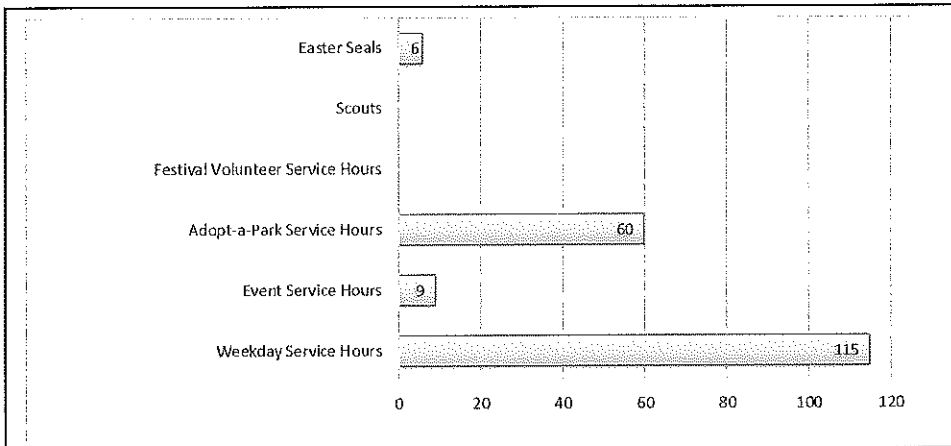
Prepared by: Ron Hall, Senior Park Ranger

Monthly Volunteer Activity Report



August | 2022

Volunteer Hours



Upcoming Events

October 1-Hands on Kirkwood honeysuckle removal in Kirkwood Park

October 15-Honeysuckle removal in Kirkwood Park

November 5-Quinette Cemetery Clean Up

November 17-Weekday volunteer program ends

November 19-Honeysuckle removal in Kirkwood Park

March 2023-Volunteer activities resume!



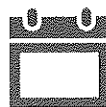
1,431
YTD Service Hours



90
YTD Episodic Volunteers



10
Weekday Volunteers



2
Events

Highlights

Volunteers cleared an entire truckload of vines from several bushes in the Aquatic Center as well as applying a layer of limestone fines to the path in Avery Park.

John Burroughs School's eighth grade class is returning to Kirkwood Park in October for a community service project. They will spend the morning removing invasive bush honeysuckle followed by ice-skating.

George Morehead adopted Walker Park.

KIRKWOOD PARK MASTER PLAN

PREPARED BY MURRAY POUNDS, DIRECTOR KIRKWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION 2003-2020

Responses in this document correlate to items listed in the 2005 Parks and Recreation Master Plan prepared by Planning Design Studios for the Kirkwood Park Board. The Master Plan was approved by Kirkwood City Council, following its submission by the Park Board in early 2005.

Kirkwood Park (Page 4-3)

1. *Community Center/Aquatic Center* – some improvements to the parking lot, mostly intended to add parking were done. This includes the addition of stormwater detention areas along the western edge that were part of the Walker Lake improvements. The effort to create a better connection between the community and aquatic center was not implemented as the expectation was that the community center would receive a significant renovation in the future.
2. *Walker Lake Improvements* – the effort to improve the aesthetics and functionality of Walker Lake was accomplished in three phases. Efforts included edge improvements and plantings, replacement of the ledge rock at the head of the lake and elimination of the island in the lake with a peninsula that included a seating area. The handball courts were demolished and eventually replaced at the racquet sports center in the northeast portion of the park. The addition of the stormwater retention basins around the parking lot also occurred in coordination with this work. The concrete swale that led from Geyer Road to the bridge area was removed and replaced by a naturalized channel. The pathway around the lake was also replaced and lights were added to the path which included an ADA compliant route. A small, half circle pavilion, designed as an entry feature to the park from the community center lot was also added. A few years after these projects were completed the bridge extending from the parking lot at the neck of the lake was replaced, funded by a private donation.
3. *Central Community Space* - This project was part of a three part effort to replace facilities along what has come to be known as the “Central Ridge.” This specific effort was part of Phase 2 of the Central Ridge. As suggested major elements of the project included replacement of the concession stand and restroom facility, replacement of both playground systems and repaving of the Central Ridge sidewalk from Amphitheater Drive to near the crosswalk at the east end of the park. The walk leading from the parking lot bridge to the concession stand was also replaced and reconfigured to meet ADA standards. Utilities in this area were also upgraded.
4. *Athletic Fields* – Although the effort to offload some athletic field functions to Greentree Park has yet to occur, improvements to the fields include the addition of irrigation to Diamonds 4, 5, 6, and a spectator area at Diamond 4. The failure to move athletic fields to Greentree can be attributed to ongoing concerns regarding the Meramec River and

the need to invest money in other active recreation facilities. The effort to provide a pavilion near Diamond #5 was replaced by the addition of the Campbell Pavilion located to the south of Diamond #4 and paid for by a generous donation from the Campbell family.

5. *Tennis Center*- renamed the Racquet Sports Center, eight of the existing tennis courts were rebuilt using post tension concrete technology. Two (2), three wall handball/racquetball courts, replacing the courts previously located near Walker Lake. A single, dedicated pickleball court was added as well. Currently plans are underway to convert a single tennis court into four pickleball courts to meet the growing demand for this sport. The old tennis center building was replaced by a brand new headquarters that included a attendants' room, pro shop, restroom, storage and changing room.
6. *Existing Parking* – Most of the parking located along the Central Ridge has been repaved and expanded slightly to facilitate the ease of parking.
7. *Lions Picnic Area* – In what was referred to as Phase 3 Lions Pavilion was rebuilt and reconfigured. Long regarded the iconic facility in Kirkwood Park, the decision was made to retain the stone columns of the structure that was built in the 1940's. The roof was replaced by a modern metal roof that matched other rooflines created in other areas of the park. The restroom structure that had been part of the pavilion was removed as new restroom facilities were developed at the nearby Racquet Sports Center. As suggested by the plan, a totally new picnic pavilion, Sugarcreek Pavilion, replaced the oversized barbecue pit that was on the site. A barbecue/firepit plaza was added between the Lions and Sugarcreek Pavilions.
8. *Lions Amphitheater* – as part of the Phase 2 project access to the Lions Amphitheater was improved. This included wheelchair access from the back of the facility and an ADA compliant walkway leading from the concession stand area to the back of the amphitheater. Accessible seating areas were developed at the back of the house.
9. *Scout Comfort Station/Picnic Shelter* – Phase 1 in implementing the master plan consisted principally of replacing both these facilities utilizing limestone rock with metal roof that was to become the theme for buildings on the Central Ridge.
10. *Operations Area* – As the park system grew, the need to create a park maintenance headquarters became obvious. The Quonset Hut, that was the principal building, was totally inadequate and replaced by a tilt up concrete construction, 12,00 square foot building designed to sustain the park maintenance department for many years. The facility includes a large yard, loading dock and six storage bins for a variety of landscaping materials. A special feature of the facility was the use of ground loop technology for heating and cooling to reduce energy use. Amphitheater Drive from Playground Drive to the maintenance facility was repaved.
11. *West Valley* – Other than removal of the almost unused Pioneer Building, little has been done on this objective. There has been significant resistance to the idea of closing Rifle Range Road as many people have expressed the desire to take a drive through this scenic area of the park. Two projects in the area not specifically mentioned in the

master plan have been accomplished, the rebuilding of the creek to the east of the low water crossing and the repaving of Rifle Range Road.

12. *Neighborhood Gateway* – Virtually nothing has been accomplished in regards to this objective principally due to resistance from park neighbors and lack of a demonstrated need for such improvements.
13. *General Utility/Infrastructure* – Throughout the Central Ridge projects the electrical and water services were updated, and walkways were repaved. A new fiber optic line was installed that stretches from the Community Center to the park concession stand, racquet sports center and park maintenance facility. A wood chip trail that leads from near the park maintenance facility west to Rifle Range Road then south along the Sugar Creek valley and then east to the community center parking lot was completed. Further study of a possible trail connection along Adams from Geyer Road to the park maintenance facility has been done at the committee level, but no specific action to add to the trail system in this area has been done. The 35 year old fitness trail was replaced by a three pod fitness loop. No effort has been made to aesthetically enhance the water pump station simply because it has not been considered a high priority.
14. *Signage Improvements* – The creation of the electronic signboard at the corner of Geyer Road and Adams established a standard for design of other park title signs which will be covered in the discussion of each park. Work to replace other signs within Kirkwood Park has languished due to higher priorities.
15. *Connection to City-Wide Trail via Geyer Road* - The development of the on road bike path leading From the southwestern terminus of Grant’s Trail to the Community Center included the installation of a trailhead of sorts near the Community Center at Argonne Drive and Adams Avenue before the bike route heads south on Geyer.
16. *Connection to City-Wide Trail via Sugar Creek Valley Parkway Trail* – As indicated in Item 11, little has been done to change the typical use of Rifle Range Road running through Sugar Creek Valley, other than the recent repaving of the road. No other trail system or bike route expansion along Adams Avenue has been contemplated to any great extent due to cost and jurisdictional factors related to Adams Avenue.

Emmenegger Park (Page 4-7)

1. *Future Link to Greentree Park* – It is fair to say that this topic has created controversy, with some saying the effort to link the Meramec River valley via trails has great value. Conversely, there are many, including those who live along the proposed route, that the development of such a trail will have a negative impact on Emmenegger Park and the proposed trail’s immediate neighbors. In approximately 2005 there was an effort mounted to acquire rights to develop a trail in two of the three private properties along the river between the two parks that would support the trail. Great Rivers Greenway District was willing to fund the acquisition of these rights and development of the trail.

In the end, the contract to acquire right of way fell through, though discussion of the topic has emerged at various times.

2. *Existing Open Field* – Work by the park staff has made access to the field area easier. With that ease of use has come problems with the park neighbors to the north who have concerns about the amount and type of use of the field area.
3. *New Riverfront Multi Use Trail* – The heavy erosion of the river bank in Emmenegger Park, brought on by development on the west side of the Meramec River, has made this a difficult project to contemplate. The recently completed bank stabilization project along the Emmenegger bank has made this development a difficult proposition, exacerbated by concerns of some about the possible degradation of Emmenegger Park should such a trail be developed.
4. *Existing Pedestrian Trail* – The trail system for the most part remains as it was at the time the master plan was developed. In the absence of the development of the riverfront trail there has been little impetus to do much other than maintain the status quo in terms of the existing trail system. It should be noted that the volunteer effort to remove honeysuckle throughout the park has had a huge, and positive impact on the trail system.
5. *Improved Trailhead* – Little has been done on the specific projects listed in this objective mainly due to a lack of clear purpose without further development in the park.
6. *Welcome Feature* – The focus of this project has been a title sign at the main entrance to the park. Based on the design of the Kirkwood Park sign at Geyer and Adams the new sign, which was paid for by a private donation, advertises the park name, purpose and alliance in the Kirkwood Park system. The idea of signage at the corner of Stoneywood Drive and Cragwold Road has not been undertaken due to restrictions on the part of the Missouri Department of Transportation.
7. *Link to Powder Valley Nature Center* – One project not anticipated in the plan, but that is coming to fruition is the development of a pedestrian bridge across the Meramec River leading from an area to the south of Emmenegger and across to the Fenton side of the river. The project includes the development of not only the bridge, but parking and trailhead facilities to enhance the usefulness of the project. As part of the study for the bridge and examination of the possibility of developing bike facilities from the bridge to Powder Valley, but in the end the cost was too high to be included in the project. Nevertheless, the value of connecting to the Powder Valley facility cannot be overstated.
8. *Existing Service Entrance* – The only element in this objective completed to date is the installation of the service drive gate. Other elements have been set aside as they do not have a major impact on the park in its current state.
9. *Bike Trail Link to Main Entrance* – See information in item 7.
10. *Existing Bridge* – Until any development of additional trail stretching to the north along the riverfront, there is little need to modify the current use of this bridge.
11. *Improved Accessible Trailhead* – The existing trailhead and ADA parking area have proved adequate for the time being.

12. *New Perimeter Trail* – The current use of the park, coupled with ongoing flooding make this objective less necessary to implement.
13. *Improved Informal Open Field* – The continued erosion of the bank, brought on principally by development on the west side of the Meramec ultimately brought about the demise of the original riverfront pavilion. Using federal flood insurance monies, a new pavilion, located where the old pool once was situated, has been built. The development of a playground in this area remains a topic of interest and would enhance the use of the pavilion.
14. *Renovated Comfort Station* – While enhancing the aesthetics of the existing comfort station, the focus has been to maintain the existing facility operationally. When the eventual replacement of the comfort station becomes necessary addressing the aesthetics as described should be considered. In the meantime, the anticipated lifetime of the building would indicate that investment improving its appearance would not be worth the cost based on its life expectancy.
15. *Riverfront Picnic/Fishing Area* - The massive erosion of the Emmenegger bank made this project a difficult one to contemplate. With the recent completion of the bank stabilization developing ways to reach the river's edge in this area of the park may be considered.
16. *Renovated Pavilion* – As indicated in the comments in Section 13 the existing pavilion had to be demolished when erosion crept too close. Many of the design elements proposed were incorporated in the new pavilion.
17. *Main Entrance Improvements* – as indicated previously, a new title sign has been created. A new gate structure has also replaced the old, unsightly gate system.
18. *Existing Parking Lot* – As the plan proposes improvements have been made to the existing parking lot, as well as the drive leading down the hill to the park.
19. *Future Connection to Sunset Hills* – Such a plan was contemplated during the development of the Meramec River Pedestrian bridge. Ultimately it was determined that this connection would only extend towards the river's edge. In the meantime, the development of the bridge offers a whole new opportunity for those on the Kirkwood/Sunset Hill side of the river to explore the Fenton side of the river through the new river crossing.

Greentree Park (Page 4-10)

1. *Existing Natural Wooded Area* - Some efforts have been made by staff to clear and maintain casual trails in this area connecting to walks developed in the prairie discussed in Section 6.
2. *Existing Athletic Fields* – The athletic fields remain in place with more use of the soccer/football areas taking place. It is unclear at this time what the apparent demise of the Kirkwood Athletic Association will have in terms of use of the baseball fields as KAA was the principal user of these fields.

3. *Existing Roadway* – The existing roadway remains in place although it has been repaved since the creation of the master plan.
4. *Existing Parking* – As with the roadway the existing parking lot remains in place, although it has been repaved as well.
5. *Wetland Demonstration/Interpretation Area* – The wetlands demonstration area has been successfully completed. While no pavilion or comfort station has been built, a boardwalk takes visitors out into the wetlands area.
6. *Short/Tall Prairie* – In coordination with the development of the wetlands area a prairie demonstration area under the Ameren UE transmission lines. The area includes a trail system that leads visitors throughout both the wetlands and the prairie areas.
7. *Athletic Fields* – To date, funding to develop the proposed additional athletic fields has not been made available, despite a strong desire to develop such facilities. The anticipated demise of Kirkwood Athletic Association could also impact the need to develop additional athletic fields in Greentree Park.
8. *Parking* – Until such time as fields are developed in the park no additional parking is required.
9. *Plaza Area* – the development of a comfort station and playground is tied to the development of any additional athletic fields.
10. *Existing Remote Control Car Track* – The track continues operation following the development of an ADA compliant drivers' stand.
11. *Link to Meramec Greenway* – While the master plan speaks to developing a trail along the banks of the Meramec River between Greentree and Emmenegger Parks, opposition to this plan has emerged.
12. *Trail* – As indicated in the plan a trail spanning Greentree Park from the east end of the park all the way to the west end of the park where it connects to the Meramec River Greenway in Simpson Park is now in place. The trail development project also included the development of parking and an interpretative pavilion at the eastern terminus of the trail. The trail also has spurs that connect to the northern portions of the park across Marshall Road which also connects to the prairie area trail.
13. *New Pavilion* – To date an additional pavilion in Greentree Park has not been developed. This failure can be attributed primarily to the ongoing flooding concerns for the park and the lack of other facilities such as playgrounds that would draw picnic users to the park.
14. *Existing Pavilion* – Little has been done to upgrade the existing pavilion other than repair damage caused by flooding. The flooding that occurs with regularity in Greentree Park also inhibits that ability to develop facilities like playgrounds in this area of the park.
15. *Existing Boat Ramp* – MDOC provides most of the necessary maintenance of this ramp. Since the master plan was written MDOC has replaced the lower portion of the ramp to improve its usefulness.

16. *Upgraded Comfort Station* – As part of the repairs required following the flooding of the existing comfort station some improvements to the operational functionality have been. In the meantime, aesthetic improvements have not been done.
17. *Existing Bridge* – the bridge continues to be used as suggested by the plan.
18. *Interpretive Pavilion* – The addition of the proposed interpretive pavilion at the eastern terminus of the trail was completed as part of the project to install the trail.
19. *Link to Emmenegger Park* - As previously discussed in this report the effort to develop this link has proved to be very divisive and resistance on the part of landowners in the area is strong. In addition to this divisiveness, deed restrictions on one of the properties located on the path of the proposed trail would make it impossible to develop the trail without going through a condemnation process.
20. *Connection to City-Wide Trail System via Marshall Road* – Currently the on-road bike route that extends from Grant’s Trail ends at the entrance to the Meramec Quarry Park. The effort to develop a connection to Greentree Park via the Quarry Park or along Marshall Road has proven to be very difficult to contemplate based on costs, impact on the Quarry Park and resistance from area residents. Subsequently no connection has been made.

Meramec Highlands Quarry at Dee Koesterling Park (Page 4-13)

1. *Potential Marshall Road Bypass Trail* – A plan that would create an ADA compliant trail that would ultimately connect the Quarry Park to Greentree Park was developed at one point. It was ultimately determined that such a trail would be too cumbersome, impactful and expensive to make this a viable project.
2. *Existing Overlook Structure* – The overlook structure is indeed a main feature of the park.
3. *Existing Quarry Spoils* – The history of the park as a former quarry does indeed create a very interesting interpretive opportunity. The huge rock slabs that were quarried but then left onsite remain a fascinating point of interest for park visitors.
4. *Nature Trail* – a casual nature trail that loops through the lower level of the park has been successfully developed.
5. *Existing Trail* – The trail that leads from the interior ADA parking lot to the interpretive structure has been developed as planned.
6. *Shelter/Outdoor Classroom* – Access to the interior of the park has made this project difficult to complete.
7. *New Bridge* – A bridge has been developed as part of the Nature Trail that explores the creek bed in the park.
8. *Low Water Crossing* – The Nature Trail does include low water crossings at various points that do encourage contact with the creek.
9. *Existing Roadway* – the existing roadway remains in use although maintenance of the road at its lowest point is proving to be challenging due to runoff and other issues.

10. *Existing Parking Area* - The parking lot at the outside of the park continues to serve the visiting public well.
11. *Existing Gate* – Function of the existing gate continues to serve its purpose in keeping the public from entering the park when closed.
12. *Utility Infrastructure Improvements* – In the absence of any effort to add the proposed outdoor classroom structure no effort has been made to add the proposed water line.
13. *Signage Improvements* – One of the outcomes of the cooperative project with the Great Rivers Greenway District in creating the on-road bike path that leads from Grant’s Trail to Quarry Park was the provision of a very unique title sign for the Quarry Park. Otherwise, signage outside of the interpretive display has languished in favor of other projects in the park system.
14. *Marshall Road Bike Route* – Quarry Park is linked via an on-road route that stretches all the way back to Grant’s Trail. As previously discussed, any effort to expand the route either through the park or along Marshall Road have been sidetracked by combinations of costs and impact on the park.

Walker Park (Page 4-15)

It is important to remember that planning for Walker Park was occurring at the same time the master plan was being developed, following donation of the park property by Earl and Myrtle Walker. The implementation of the plan was funded in part by a grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Park Grant Commission

1. *New Shade Trees* -As part of the landscape plan for the park’s development several trees were planted along with a variety of other plant material.
2. *Pavilion* – As suggested by the plan a small pavilion was built in the northeast corner of the park. Stylistically the pavilion builds on themes established in Kirkwood Park of limestone rock elements and the multi pitched roof line of the Kirkwood train station.
3. *Existing Wood Fence* – The fence has been changed to a hog wire fence.
4. *Flowering Trees* – These trees were included in the landscape plan for the park’s development.
5. *Benches* – A total of nine benches were included in the final plan for the park. Several were paid for by donation.
6. *Drinking Fountain* – The proposed drinking fountain was included in the construction of the park.
7. *Entrance* – A very nice entrance area was created at the corner of Washington and Taylor. It includes the title sign for the park which is modeled on the Kirkwood Park main sign.
8. *Metal Picket Fence w/Stone Columns* – One of the ideas that came out of the neighborhood planning sessions for the park was the idea that because of the large amount of traffic around the park a fence was essential. The fence incorporates the

- metal picket and stone columns as suggested by the plan. As an added bonus, a beautiful arching metal sign was added at northeast corner, announcing the park name.
9. *Groundcover/Flowering Perennials* – These items were included in the construction of the park.
 10. *Play Areas* – A moderately sized playground was developed in the northwest portion of the park. In addition, two large bronze turtle sculptures (Myrtle’s turtles) were placed on the east side of the park and are often considered play elements in the park.
 11. *Open Lawn* – Another idea that emerged from the neighborhood planning sessions was the idea of having an open area where one could toss a ball. The open lawn area in the park was created to meet this demand.
 12. *Paved Path*- A paved path extends in a circular pattern throughout the park.
 13. *Existing Sidewalk* – Existing sidewalks were retained.
 14. *Sign Wall* – As indicated previously the main title sign or sign wall was completed based on the inspiration of the main sign at Kirkwood Park.
 15. *Existing Trees* – Existing trees were maintained during design and construction to the greatest extent possible.
 16. *Woodland Area* – One of the unique features of the park is the bubbling fountain was built along the southern portion of the park’s walkway. It has become a special area for contemplation by park visitors as people enjoy the auditory effects of the bubbling fountain.
 17. *Paved Game Table Area* – Again an idea that emerged from the neighborhood planning sessions was the development of two game tables for playing checkers and chess that could be utilized by residents of the apartment/condo development to the west.

Fireman’s Park (Page 4-17)

Fireman’s Park was created when efforts were made on a county wide basis to eliminate all municipal fire departments in favor of regional fire districts. Fearful that Fire House 2, situated on a large lot might be taken over for such a fire district, the City designated the southern portion of the property as a park in order to not lose the entire property. Some efforts have been made to develop unpaved nature trails in the park.

1. *New Signage* - To date this project has not been completed but should be considered in the future.
2. *Future Land Acquisition* – The residential property immediately to the west of the park was offered to the City for sale many years ago, but the price was not affordable. The cost was based on the potential for the property to be developed as two buildable lots, which is a difficult proposition given the configuration of the property lines. Other priorities at the time also precluded any interest.

3. *New Parking Area* – When Fire House 2 underwent its renovation additional parking was created around and behind the station. This added parking has proven to be adequate for the level of use the park currently receives.

Depot Park (Page 4-18)

A significant change to the park that was not included in the master plan was a name change. The park's name was changed to McEntee Memorial Park to honor Patrolman Bill McEntee, a Kirkwood policeman who lost his life in the line of duty. A walkway was added that connects to the Memorial Walkway on the north side of City Hall that honors those who lost their lives in the City Hall tragedy.

1. *Updated Playground Surface* – In addition to replacing the old wood chip safety surface, McEntee Memorial also received some new playground equipment utilizing a grant from the St. Louis County Grant Commission.
2. *New Signage* – A new sign, modeled on the Kirkwood Park sign, was completed. The new sign recognizes the name change to McEntee Memorial Park.

Fillmore Park (Page 4-18)

Fillmore Park underwent a tremendous renovation and transformation that went beyond the recommendations in the master plan. This transformation followed the acquisition of the residential lot located immediately to the north of the park. The principal intent of this renovation was to take advantage of the property acquisition and place features of the park on one level, making it far more accessible. The renovations included two new age appropriate playgrounds, swings and a pavilion. New title signs, again based on the Kirkwood Park main sign, were also developed. New planting areas, sidewalks and stone and metal fences further enhanced the park. A significant portion of the renovation was paid for by a grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Park Grant Commission.

Mitchell Park (Page 4-19)

1. *Updated Playground Surface* – Because of a generous donation from the Campbell family the playground in Mitchell Park has received upgrades far beyond what was listed in the master plan. In addition to receiving rubber safety surface the playground equipment was totally rehabbed as was the swing set. A second playground area, designed for older children, was also added.
2. *New Signage* – While yet to be accomplished, the addition of a new park title sign is included in the Park Fund capital plan.

3. *Site Furnishings Upgrade* – Not yet fully accomplished some site furnishings, particularly benches are being replaced through donations as such opportunities present themselves.

Meacham Park Memorial Park (Page 4-19)

As the plan indicated when written, Meacham Park Memorial Park was less than two years old as the plan was developed. Consequently, no specific recommendations were made. The park has, however, seen several significant rehabilitation projects, including an entire rehab of the playground and safety surface, resurfacing of the basketball court and the addition of new adjustable basketball goals, and the replacement of the sprayground.

City Wide Trail Plan (Page 4-19)

Implementation of the trail plan has been a difficult proposition. The principal project has been the on street route that connects Grant's Trail to the Quarry Park. This includes a dedicated bike lane on Rose Hill as well as several crossing at major intersections along the way intended to highlight the presence of bike and pedestrian traffic.

Ultimately it was realized that implementation of the plan solely on the part of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Park Board was not feasible. In 2014-15 Trailnet was commissioned to develop a Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. This effort, while initiated by the Park Board, was led by the City's Engineering Department. The plan is now used by the City in determining future development of streets, sidewalks and trails.

Land Acquisition (Page5-3)

While the master plan includes extensive discussion of land acquisition and strategies, citizen survey work (2011) done after the master plan was completed indicated that most Kirkwood citizens were fairly well satisfied with the size of the park system. That being said, it was recognized that much of the park acreage in the City is concentrated in the southwest portion of the City. The top two land acquisition priorities were land for Playlots/Mini Parks in the northeast (north of Manchester, east of Geyer) and west of I-270 in the Greenbriar Hills subdivision.

Both of these priorities have been met. The purchase of one of the larger residential lots in the Greenbriar Hills subdivision resulted in the development of Ella and Charles E. Monfort, Jr. Memorial Park. Purchased from the estate of the Monforts the park includes a playground, pavilion and walking path. The pavilion is modeled after the old Highland Park train station

located on the other side of Big Bend Blvd and currently serving as a private residence. The park is the site of many neighborhood gatherings and is well used by the locals. Much of the cost of the development of the park was paid for by a St. Louis County Municipal Park grant.

The second priority was met when local residents approached the Park Board about the potential to buy two residential lots on Avery Drive, and area north of Manchester and east of Geyer. After successful negotiation both lots were purchased. After receiving significant input from the neighborhood plans for the park were made, including a pavilion, playground, swings, half court basketball and a walking path. The park was completed with again much of the costs paid for by a grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Park Grant Commission

Summation

When approved in early 2005, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan seemed to be a monumental undertaking. 17 years later it is amazing to see the number of objectives within the plan that have been accomplished. Not only has much of Kirkwood Park has been rebuilt, new parks have been added and significant improvements to almost every other park have been made. It is a tribute to the planners who created the plan and the many interested citizens, volunteers, elected and appointed officials and staff who participated in the creation of the plan. It is a tribute as well to the willingness of Kirkwood residents to financially support parks and recreation in Kirkwood. Funding from the Municipal Park Grant Commission of St. Louis County has also been a significant factor in the ability to execute the plan.

The shelf life of most master plans is typically 15 – 20 years at best. While there are objectives in the plan that remain unfinished, consideration should be given to completing a new master plan given the realities of today's changing landscape. The current plan focused much of its attention on outdoor and passive park facilities. The next plan may need to focus on not only these topics but active recreation facilities as well.