



**Park Board Agenda**  
**Monday, September 23, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Kirkwood Community Center**  
**111 South Geyer Rd.**



**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).*

**I. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 19, 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

**II. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS/REPORTS**

- a. No Reports

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. McEntee Memorial Park Playground Equipment
- b. Meacham Park Fence
- c. Strategic Plan Update

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Other Matters

**V. SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS, HEAD RANGER AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORTS**

**VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Next Meeting – October 28, 2024 (Park Maintenance Building)**

**Staff Liaison:** Kyle Henke. Phone: 314.822.5856 Email: [henkekk@kirkwoodmo.org](mailto: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 19, 2024 7:00 p.m.  
Kirkwood Community Center Room 202**



**IN ATTENDANCE:** The meeting was called order at 7:02 p.m. with President Ellen Edman, Steve Ostrowski, Nate Wurtz, Jordan Wienke, Alan Hopefl, Christopher Molitor, Kevin Miller, Lauren Nieman, Becky Jones (absent) and Staff Liaison Kyle Henke and Pete Laufersweiler in attendance.

**I. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Nancy Leutzow, 1208 Debois Ct, discussed rescheduling a joint Park Board, City Council work session. Many Park Board members were not available on a previously offered date. She made the Park Board aware of an upcoming meeting of concerned citizens to discuss the former KAA property.

**II. APPROVAL OF JULY 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

A motion made by Alan Hopefl to approve the July 15, 2024 meeting minutes, seconded by Christopher Molitor. Motion approved unanimously.

**III. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Committee Assignments – Ellen read the list of committees and asked for volunteers.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. McEntee Playground Equipment  
A motion made by Jordan Wienke to recess the meeting, seconded by Alan Hopefl. Motion approved unanimously.  
The recess ended and the meeting was called back to order  
The Board gave kyle direction on what equipment options to consider with the public at his upcoming public input sessions.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Other Matters – Alan asked bout Sunshine Law brochure for the Park Board. The City Clerk is scheduled to come to the October meeting to discuss. Alan asked about the process of posting the agenda for the meetings, Kyle explained the current process.

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS REPORT**

- a. Pete Laufersweiler discussed the Superintendent of Parks report

**VII. DIRECTORS REPORT**

- a. Master Plan – Kyle gave an update on the Master Plan survey.
- b. Community Center Renovations – Renovations are currently underway.



- c. Mitchell Park Update – Kick off meeting with DG2 is planned and the process is moving forward.
- d. Lions Amphitheater – The lights have been replaced/updated.

#### **VIII. BOARD COMMENTS**

Alan Hopefl discussed the results from the annual City Satisfaction survey.

The next meeting will be held September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Parks Maintenance Building.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

*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: henkek@kirkwoodmo.org



## Memo

To: Kirkwood Park Board  
From: Kyle Henke  
Date: September 18, 2024  
Re: September 23, 2024 Agenda Memo

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### Committee Reports

No Reports

### Unfinished Business

McEntee Memorial Park Playground Equipment – Public input sessions were conducted on Wednesday, September, 4 and Saturday September 7. I will report the findings to the park board during the meeting. A third vendor provided some options that also match desires from the public. These are included in the packet. Purchasing protocol for these new items still need to be vetted by procurement when it comes to purchasing cooperatives.

Meacham Park Fence – The fence along the west side of the park that is shared with a neighbor needs to be discussed further.

Strategic Planning Update – This represents the monthly opportunity to provide updates on any actions taken regarding the strategic plan.

### New Business

No New Business

Maintenance Report – Pete's report is included. As well as a Report from Ron Hall, Head Park Ranger.

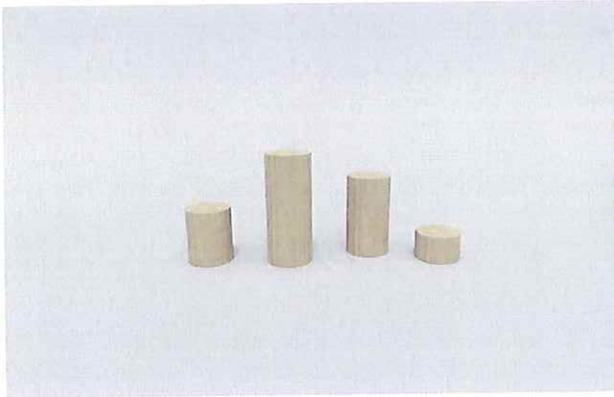
Director's Report – My report will include information on the following:

- Park Master Plan Update
- Community Center Update
- Mitchell Park Update

## IDEA #1 For McEntee



Ropes and Log From Earth scape = **\$6500**



Log Steppers – we would choose the sizes as they're sold individually, but the smallest is \$325 each, then \$375 each, then \$425. Can arrange them in any order to challenge and be kid friendly (there are some at my kids school and they like these). Thinking probably 5-6 of these.

**6 @ \$375 avgerage= 2,250**



Wobble Board (small) = \$6350

**Total for equipment with these ideas from Earthscape = \$15,100 (does not include shipping, installation, and resurfacing) which is why I left a bit of room but still may be over 25k with all that**

## Idea for McEntee Park #2

There are four options on this page. You won't be able to choose all four of these options with the current budget but I put them all together because they have the same look/style of plastic and colorful. You can mix and match with these as you choose (assuming they fit).

**Moon Crater by Superior = \$4,358**



**Use zone 21'x21'**

If you're looking for a playground climber that accommodates children ages 2-12 years, the Moon Crater is a great option. This plastic playground dome is designed for children to climb over and under with several cutouts, hand, and foot holds to assist them in their climbing adventure. Many color options available.

## Hex Net Climber from Superior = \$5,577



(this piece is technically designed for 5-12, but I thought I'd put it in here because it's close to the ground and can be used by those closer to five (my daughter is four and loves these types of things)).

### **Use zone of 20'x19'**

Made of durable, powder-coated steel and easy-to-grip six-strand steel core rope, this freestanding climber is a suitable piece of playground equipment for parks and recreation centers, schools, and housing complexes. Facility owners, principals, and property managers will love the durability of our six-strand steel core rope that won't stretch over time. Choose from a large selection of powder coat colors to customize the look of your climber and match the sleek, black netting.

## 4-Section Short Bubble Wall from Superior = \$4998



The 4-Section Half Bubble Wall is a great climbing addition to any playground, which is designed for children ages 2-12 years. This independent climber can be installed away from other structures. It has a **use zone of 14' x 30'**. This play structure helps keep children active and entertained while growing their hand-eye coordination. There are many color combinations to choose from.

**Climb and Discover cave from Superior = \$5264**



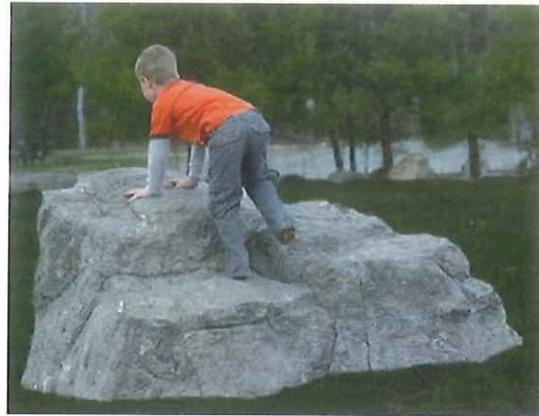
**Use zone 20'x21'**

The interior of the Climb and Discover Cave houses hidden wildlife, footprints, foliage, and more while children ages 2-5 years crawl through this playground climber and cave tunnel. The large openings on either end of the cave and the sides allow for easy supervision of the children while they play.

## Idea for McEntee #3

This is similar to Earthscape option #1 but is made of concrete and other materials that may seem more sturdy to the board or citizens.

**Small Climbing boulder from Superior = \$6812**



**Use zone = 18'1" x 17'7"**

Playground climbing boulders help children ages 2-12 years old develop balance, strength, and coordination. The boulders are crafted from genuine rock outcroppings and painted by hand to give the appearance and texture of either sandstone or **granite**(priced).

**4 Foot log tunnel= \$6,374**



**Use zone = 15'5" x 15'8"**

The 4' log tunnel for playgrounds is intricately designed for children ages 2-12 years old. It is composed of durable glass fiber-reinforced concrete with exquisite details added to give the look and feel of real wood. The tunnel is 30" high and 34" wide making it large enough for several children to play on and in at once.

### **Pikes Peak = 8,622**



**Use zone = 19'x20'**

Pike's Peak Net and Boulder Climber is an exciting freestanding, nature-inspired addition to your playground! This playground element is designed for children ages 5-12 years. (Again, technically designed for 5-12 but it's only 3ft high and those more advanced 3 or 4 year olds could use it – pair it with something small/easy for 2-5).

**Tree Slices Set (includes 5) = \$2,246**



**Use Zone = 13'9"x21'7"**

These rustic tree slices will last for years as they are made from sturdy glass fiber-reinforced concrete. They look and feel like real wood because they have realistic textures that are painted by hand. Included are two 14-inch tree slices and three 18-inch tree slices.

## Idea for McEntee #4

This option has a feature piece from Berliner and some other smaller pieces from Superior. It would replace well what's there and definitely enhance current play value.

**Mini Mars from Berliner = 10,219**



**Use Zone = 20'9" x 20'9"**

The Mini Mars is the net structure for beginners. With the utilization of the downsized FrameworkX 48-system it is the ideal play structure for preschools.

**Riders = \$1,976-\$3,512 each**

Could easily pair this with the Mini Mars or any of the other options from other ideas to make a great play space.



# **Parks Maintenance Monthly Report, September 2024 For the period of August 20<sup>th</sup> through September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

## **PARTY'S OVER! YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO HOME, BUT YOU CAN'T STAY HERE!:**

This year's Greentree Festival was well attended, and overall impressions seemed to be very positive! The grounds took quite a beating, and restoration efforts have already begun. We started by trying to loosen the compaction with our aerator, then seeding the areas that were damaged the most, and finally covering the seed with a sand/compost mix using our topdresser. It is an extensive process taking multiple days, but it will restore the turf until the next big event knocks it down again. We have been seeing the effects of the compaction year after year of multiple events is having on many of the trees in the park, and I would expect to see more tree mortality in the coming years due to the continued damage caused from vehicle compaction and physical injuries.

## **ONE FISH, TWO FISH, DEAD FISH, NEW FISH:**

Over the Labor Day weekend conditions were unfortunately favorable for a fish kill in Walker Lake at Kirkwood Park. The sustained high temperatures this summer reduced the amount of oxygen in the water available to the fish, and there was not enough oxygen to support the high fish population of the lake. The problem was exacerbated by the fact that the lake aeration system that pumps air into the lowest depths of the lake failed earlier in the month. I have been working with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) for a replacement unit and the addition of a second aeration system to help the ecosystem of the lake. There are still plenty of fish in the lake that survived the low oxygen, and this winter MDC still plans to stock the lake for winter trout fishing. Early next year MDC will do a fish survey to determine the amount and types of fish that will be stocked in the lake next spring. There is still a healthy aquatic ecosystem in the lake, and over time the lake will recover the losses.

I'd also like to commend the Parks employees for their rapid response and cleanup of the site. They quickly removed the dead fish from the lake and restored it to its previous condition to reduce the negative impact to park users and the lake. It was definitely not the most glamorous job, and I greatly appreciate their dedication to the community!

## **ANSWER ME THESE QUESTIONS THREE, ERE THE OTHER SIDE YOU'LL SEE!:**

The Parks Operations Building received an upgrade to the security system to bring it in line with the rest of the City facilities. We are now fully incorporated into the JACE system the City uses. The new system requires employees to scan a security card to unlock the doors and arm/disarm the security alarm for the building. This makes the process of knowing who is coming and going much simpler, and eliminated the need for individual security codes.

**GOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOAL!!!!!!!:**

Transition from softball to soccer has been completed. After fields 2, 3, 5, and 6 being parking lots during Greentree we quickly moved to repair any damage, aerate the fields, layout/paint the lines, and install the goals before the 1<sup>st</sup> rentals the Thursday after Greentree. Soccer will go all the way up to Thanksgiving, and once the fields are done for the year we will try to get grass seed to grow in a very tight window before the winter hits.

Services	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Park Enf. Contacts	19	14	31	52	64	68	62	56					366
Public Contacts	45	38	58	73	112	125	146	132					729
PD Assist	2	1	3	2	3	5	3	2					21
PD Dispatched Calls	1	0	2	3	5	4	3	2					20
Interpretive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Reported Maint.	3	1	3	5	4	6	5	4					31
Injuries	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2					6
Wildlife Related	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	4					11
Recovered Property	1	2	2	4	3	5	6	8					31
First Aid	0	0	0	2	2	3	2	2					0
Missing Persons	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0					1
Training Hours	24	32	72	0	6	0	0	0					134

## Summary of Activities

Throughout summer, early morning violations of the leash law often go un-checked. With the warmer temps, dog owners try to get their walks in early in the day and are aware that park ranger patrols do not occur during those early morning hours. Rangers generally perform an early morning detail often called a "Leash Law Detail" in the later part of summer. This is done after the habit has been developed by the dog owners and after we have received enough tips from parks maintenance staff and from the general public. We were able to conduct four separate details in the month of August and two more are scheduled in September. The details were conducted in our bigger parks (Kirkwood, Emmenegger, & Greentree) I am happy to report that of the 32 dogs observed during the detail, only three were in violation.

Prepared by: Ron Hall, Senior Park Ranger