

CITY OF MONROE
PARK BOARD MINUTES
June 20, 2019

Call To Order

Chairperson Tami Kinney called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:00pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Daniel Enrico, Tami Kinney, Devlin Piplic, Jessie Robinson, Michael Stanger

Board Members Absent: Steve Whalen, Ron Petrick

Agenda Revisions – None

Approval of Minutes - Motion was made by Michael Stanger and seconded by Daniel Enrico to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting. Motion carried 5-0. Minutes of approved April meeting minutes were signed by Chairperson Kinney.

Audience Participation – None

Unfinished Business – None

New Business

Park Review – Blueberry Children’s Park- The Board reviewed Blueberry Park Plan snapshot. Further discussion of progress and future work will wait until Director Farrell’s return. It was noted not much has changed since the Park Board previous visit to the park four years ago. Board members discussed the park’s use, seemingly high maintenance costs and recent improvements. Chair Kinney mentioned the park will likely see more use once the adjacent apartments are completed. Proposed improvements, covered shelter and trail, and their costs were discussed.

Park Tour – Itinerary for July meeting – It was mentioned to possibly skip the July meeting because of board member availability. When the parks are toured, Devlin Piplic recommended the tour include Lake Tye, Lewis Street, and Sky River to learn how they are holding up.

Staff Reports/Updates

Parks & Recreation Department Report - Department updates from May and June, included in agenda packets described updates about activities, projects and park events and were reviewed by Board members. Chair Kinney and Jessie Robinson described the well-attended the Arbor Day celebration and contributors to the Heritage Tree Tour were recognized for their support. It was noted the tree, donated by the Monroe Garden Club and planted by schoolchildren holds special admiration for those involved in its planting. Becoming a ‘Tree City USA’ was recognized as a significant accomplishment for the city.

Board members noted progress on the Lewis Street play equipment improvement and ‘Ribbon-cutting’ ceremony flyer, scheduled for July 11th was distributed. It was agreed the park is still really dark because of the trees, possibly fostering and supporting a transient population.

Urban Forestry Restoration Project offered by Washington State Department of Natural Resources’ Puget SoundCorps was recognized for their significant contribution with tree pruning at several city parks.

It was noted City-owned open space wetland area was named 'Foothills Wetland Preserve'.

Board Discussion – *Heritage Trees Tour Event* – Chair Kinney reviewed plans for the upcoming 'Heritage Tree Tour' which is set for July 14th, 2019, requested volunteers and suggestions for planning for the event. The Main Street walking tour, integrating Heritage Trees was discussed. Board members talked about maps, walking distances, parking, and possible refreshments.

Jesse Robinson inquired about the quantity of trash removed at Al Borlin / Sky River Park for June and would like to learn more. Board members talked further about the frequent encounter with transient activity has reduced the likelihood park visitation.

Ms. Johns asked if any Board members would be available to attend Monroe's City Council meeting June 25th at 7pm. Director Farrell requested board members to be present for the reading of two proclamations: Parks and Recreation Month and Tri-Monroe. Daniel Enrico volunteered to attend.

Agency Reports

Planning Commission – Michael Stanger reported Tarragon Development presented sketches to the Planning Commission for the North Kelsey Avenue site. Sketches are available on the City's website. General discussion followed regarding development opportunities, issues and demographic trends throughout the city.


School District – Devlin Piplic reported the School District is busy with many projects including finishing up on Hidden River Middle School, Chain Lake's parking entrance, roof and play equipment will be replaced, CTE program with Boeing, high school football and soccer fields.

General Discussion

The Park Board discussed the idea of developing criteria and goals for future park planning master planning efforts including a distinctive quality for each park as developed through the public planning process. Jessie Robinson talked about the trend toward creative play, natural, unstructured play elements.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn and meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.



Tami Kinney, Chairperson



Daniel Enrico, Secretary