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## Mission

**Protecting and enhancing the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space, and trails. Providing residents of all ages positive opportunities for recreation and social gathering in clean, safe, accessible, and inclusive facilities and green spaces. Enhancing health, quality of living, and the natural environment for present and future generations.**

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## Department Update

### Operations

In the month of August, the parks operations and maintenance crew have been working on maintaining flowerpots and baskets through the heat waves. The crew worked hard to spiffy up Main Street in preparation for the Fair Days Parade. The crew had also worked on replacing garbage cans that reached the end of their lives, a rotting pole in the Stanton Meadows Park shelter, and patching Poured-in-Place crumb rubber that developed sink holes from past floods at the Sky River Park playground. The crew has also been keeping up on routine tasks such as maintaining irrigation systems, cleaning up vandalism and homeless camps, pruning medians, removing bald-faced hornets' nests, and maintaining tools and equipment in the shop.



New post at Stanton Meadows Shelter



Before & after of a sink hole at Sky River Park playground

### **Monroe Park Board**

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Staff presented the initial plans for the city's Comprehensive Plan Update that kicked off at the end of July. Board members brought to attention the possible Emerald Ash Borer beetle infestation that will be discussed at the September meeting.

There is still 1 vacant seat on the Park Board. Please visit our website to learn more about how to serve.

Attached to this document are the minutes from the July 21, 2022 Park Board Meeting.

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### **Trombley Park Update**

Staff submitted grant applications to the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Local Parks Program and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for the Phase 1 development of the Trombley Neighborhood Park. On August 24<sup>th</sup> City staff took part in the final evaluation presentations for both grants. RCO is estimating review board will be post the initial funding recommendations in September. In the case of the federally funded LWCF grant, the National Park Service is required to approve the recommendations. If awarded, the City would receive the funding in Q1 or Q2 2023.

The goal of developing Phase 1 is to activate the park for residents with amenities including site preparation and the development of open space play areas, grading, utilities, pathways, parking area, viewing area, and the medium shelter. Completing Phase 1 establishes the infrastructure for the City to fund amenities, such as sports courts, identified in Phase 2. The parcel is located at the southwest intersection of 134th Street SE and 191st Avenue SE, in the City of Monroe.

The total estimated cost for building Phase 1 is approximately \$5,000,000 with full buildout of the project (Phase 1 and 2) estimated at \$10,000,000. The City is requesting the maximum grant amount from LWCF (\$2,000,000) and WWRP (\$500,000) totaling \$2,500,000. If awarded, the City would be responsible for a 50 percent (50%) match or \$2,500,000. The current Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) identifies \$4,000,000 for the development of Trombley Park in 2025.

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### **August Events in Our Parks**

August was a busy event month for our Parks Department. The first week kicked off with **National Night Out Against Crime** which was a huge success and saw over 2,000 attendees at Lake Tye Park. Parks staff hosted a booth at the **Farmer's Market** the first Wednesday of the month. Then that weekend was the **Lake Tye Tri**, which had almost 400 attendees, the second largest turnout for that event. The event organizer, Lisa Worthington, had nothing but praise for our staff, she said this was the best year the event has ever had and ran completely seamless. **Swifts Night Out** returned a bit earlier this year, on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The swifts decided they weren't quite ready to put on a show, but the event brought in 325 attendees.



Activities from the National Night Out Against Crime event

**Movies Under the Moon** at Lake Tye Park was another tremendous turnout! Each event had great weather and attendance numbers that exceeded those of 2019. Thank you to our parks maintenance crew for setting up the event each Friday evening and to our sponsors. Monroe Concert Band performed 3 of the 4 Fridays and we had a craft sponsor each week who hosted a fun, pre-show activity for the kids. These sponsors included: Monroe/Sky Valley YMCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, WildStyle Gym, and Monroe Bearcats Lacrosse. In addition, the Monroe Arts Council created and distributed event posters and made the announcements prior to each movie. Thank you to Republic Services for covering the costs of the movie showing rights.



Kids enjoying the sponsored craft



Crowds gathered for the start of the show

On Wednesday, August 31, our Parks Department partnered with city's Human Services Coordinator to host a booth at the **Back to School Resource Fair** at Park Place Middle School. During the event, roughly 600 students and parents visited for supplies, information, and to gain knowledge on available resources. We saw many families that are new to Monroe and interested in what the city has to offer.



City staff attending the resource fair

**CivicRec Launched August 15<sup>th</sup>**

The department officially launched our online picnic shelter reservation system. The online system will allow users to browse through the City’s 7 available shelters, create accounts, make reservations, and pay online – all within the comfort of their own home. The software will let users see the availability of the shelters, which we believe will be the greatest benefit. We have already seen 19 reservations in just the 2 weeks it has been live.



**City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections**

In 2017, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2019 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month:

**Locations: Al Borlin Park**

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
8/16	6	10	Al Borlin – garbage collected from behind sign & at entrance
8/23	8	8	Al Borlin – garbage collected from behind sign & at entrance
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2022

**Volunteer Opportunities**

If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact Makenna Ohlsen at (360) 863-4559. Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.



# MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, July 21, 2022, 7:00 PM  
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at City Hall

**Park Board Members**  
Jessie Robinson, Chair  
Keith Dahlenburg, Member  
Amy Martin, Member  
Mariana Medina, Member  
Ron Petrick, Member

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Robinson called the Park Board Meeting to order at 7:02pm, hybrid via Zoom and in-person at Monroe Council Chambers.

### 2. ROLL CALL

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessie Robinson	Chairperson
<input type="checkbox"/> Keith Dahlenburg	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Martin	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mariana Medina	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scot Noel	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Petrick	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	Board Member

Keith Dahlenburg was absent.

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Board Member Petrick, to approve the May 19, 2022 minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. New Board Member, Scot Noel

Scot introduced himself and explained his history in Monroe.

## **7. STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben highlighted the Parks Department's activities for the month of June. Staff has been busy with events in the parks, and working grant funding for Trombley Park.

### 7.2. Community Development Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben explained the process for the Flood Hazard Regulation amendments and the commencement of the Comp Plan Update for the City.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

### 8.1. Chairperson Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Martin seconded. Motion passed 5-0 and the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

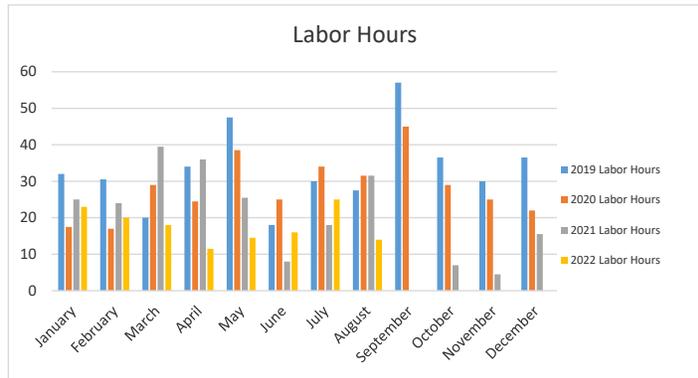
Board Members and staff then made site visits to Blueberry Children's Park and Trombley Park. Site visits were adjourned at 9:00pm.

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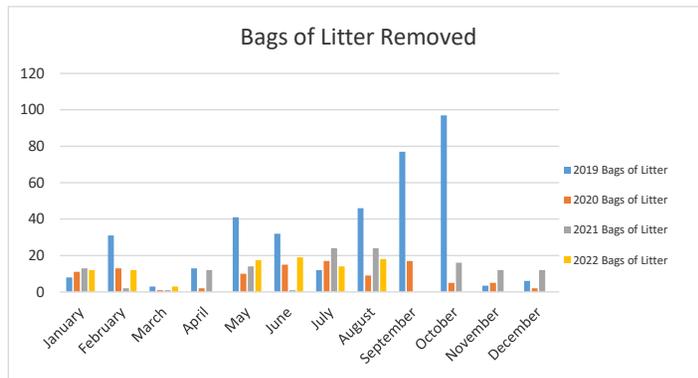
Chairperson

## 2019-2022 Park Homelessness Response

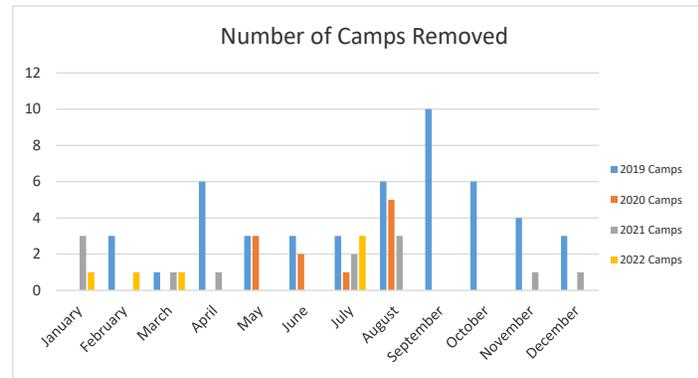
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-22	23	12	1
Feb-22	20	12	1
Mar-22	18	3	1
Apr-22	11.5	0	0
May-22	14.5	17.5	0
Jun-22	16	19	0
Jul-22	25	14	3
Aug-22	14	18	0
Sep-22			
Oct-22			
Nov-22			
Dec-22			
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>6</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-21	25	13	3
Feb-21	24	2	0
Mar-21	39.5	1	1
Apr-21	36	12	1
May-21	25.5	14	0
Jun-21	8	1	0
Jul-21	18	24	2
Aug-21	31.5	24	3
Sep-21	0	0	0
Oct-21	7	16	0
Nov-21	4.5	12	1
Dec-21	15.5	12	1
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>234.5</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>12</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-20	17.5	11	0
Feb-20	17	13	0
Mar-20	29	1	0
Apr-20	24.5	2	0
May-20	38.5	10	3
Jun-20	25	15	2
Jul-20	34	17	1
Aug-20	31.5	9	5
Sep-20	45	17	0
Oct-20	29	5	0
Nov-20	25	5	0
Dec-20	22	2	0
<b>Total 2020</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>11</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-19	32	8	0
Feb-19	30.5	31	3
Mar-19	20	3	1
Apr-19	34	13	6
May-19	47.5	41	3
Jun-19	18	32	3
Jul-19	30	12	3
Aug-19	27.5	46	6
Sep-19	57	77	10
Oct-19	36.5	97	6
Nov-19	30	3.5	4
Dec-19	36.5	6	3
<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>399.5</b>	<b>369.5</b>	<b>48</b>