



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.

Department Update

Operations

The Parks Department began preparing and restoring ballfields for the spring season. The crew worked on early pruning, landscaping, and relocating trees. Trees were removed from the sidewalk pots in the downtown and replanted in the Tester/522 roundabout. Staff also took time to repair the fence damages at Sky River Park (see below in the Vandalism section).



Before at Tester/522 Roundabout



After at Tester/522 Roundabout – pruned, new bark, & replanted trees from downtown pots



Removing trees from downtown pots

Vandalism Report

We experienced more incidents of vandalism in February 2023. In an effort to make the public more aware of incidents, below is a compilation of occurrences within City Parks for the past month, with a breakdown of the occurrence date, location, description of incident, and the estimated costs and time to repair:

Incident / Discovery Date	Location	Description	Est. Cost (Labor & Materials)	Est. Time to Repair / Clean
2/6	Lake Tye Restrooms	Vandalism (TP holder, soap dispenser, mesh screen)	\$160	1 hour
2/14	Al Borlin Park	Graffiti	\$50	30 Mins
2/21	Sky River Park Fence	Vehicle drove through vinyl fence	\$400	4 hours
2/25	Al Borlin Park	Graffiti	\$75	1 hour

The Parks Department has been using Snohomish County Citizen Crime Reporting, an online police reporting system within Snohomish County. SNO911 reports are routed and housed with the Monroe Police Department. Please call 911 if you witness any acts of vandalism.



Graffiti at Al Borlin Park



Vinyl fence damage at Sky River Park

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 for information on upcoming programs and events.

Wiggly Field Petiquette Reminder

The Parks Department posted a reminder in Monroe This Week regarding petiquette at Wiggly Field. The topic was brought up at the February Park Board Meeting and is a good reminder now that the Fairgrounds Undercover Park is closed as of February 28th. The entry stated “We are thrilled the community enjoys our Wiggly Field Dog Park. We’d like to remind you of the park rules so that it remains a safe and friendly place for both you and your furry friends. Please review our Off-Leash Dog Park Rules and remember to always be respectful of others.” You can find more information about Wiggly Field by entering “Wiggly Field” into the search bar on our website.

February Events

Special events were quiet in February, but staff scheduled ballfield reservations for the Spring & Summer Season (March 1st – August 31st). Over 40 teams turned in applications with a total of over 2,000 field reservations awarded and 5 baseball tournaments scheduled.

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: Lake Tye, Sky River, Al Borlin, & Stanton Trail

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
2/6	7	3	Lake Tye – inspections Stanton Trail – 1 camp removed
2/7	10	9	Sky River / Rotary Field / Library – garbage clean up Al Borlin – 1 camp removed
2/21	6.75	9	Sky River / Rotary Field / Library - 1 camp/garbage removed Al Borlin – garbage & needles removed
2/28	5	4	Sky River – 1 camp removed
Avg.	7.2	6.25	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

Monroe Park Board

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, February 16, 2023.

Staff gave a presentation on the structure and responsibilities of local government. The Park Board reviewed the updates made by staff to the Special Events Code MMC 5.28 and voted to recommend the changes to be approved at Council. Discussions by board members and staff were on the topics of vandalism and security cameras, volunteer opportunities, Wiggly Dog Park suggestions, and the best practices using native plant landscapes.

Attached to this report are the approved January 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

The next Park Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 7:00pm.



MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting
Thursday, January 19, 2023, 7:00 PM
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at City Hall

Park Board Members:
Jessie Robinson, Chair
Amy Martin, Member
Keith Dahlenburg, Member
Brady Welever, Member
Ron Petrick, Member
Mariana Medina, Member
Scot Noel, Member

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Robinson called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:01pm, hybrid via Zoom and in-person at Monroe Council Chambers.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Board Members Medina and Noel were absent.
The meeting was recorded on Zoom for absentees to watch.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1. Imagine Monroe & Brand Update - *Mayor Thomas & Deborah Knight*

Mayor Thomas explained the roles of the Park Board Members, and explained the verbiage behind *Imagine Monroe*. Deborah tied *Imagine Monroe* in with the plan of our new Brand update, including new logo, colors, and tagline.

3.2. Budget 101: 2023-2024 Budget & Strategic Plan - *Becky Hasart*

Becky presented a Budget 101 overview which explained how the Parks Department gets its funding.

3.3. OPMA / PRA Overview - *Jodi Wycoff*

Jodi was absent. The Park Board had reviewed OPMA/PRA in October, so no need for another review.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 4.1. Motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Chair Robinson to approve the October 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Becky Hasart thanked the Parks Board for their work creating public spaces for all people to enjoy, especially the Winter Dog Park/partnership with the County and Fair Park.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1. Selection of Officers - Chair & Vice Chair

Motion was made by Board Member Dahlenburg, seconded by Board Member Martin to select Jessie Robinson as Chairperson. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Board Member Petrick, seconded by Chair Robinson to select Amy Martin as Vice Chairperson. Motion passed 5-0.

- 6.2. Park Board 2023 Work Plan Ben Swanson

Motion was made by Board Member Dahlenburg, seconded by Chair Robinson to approve the Park Board 2023 Work Plan. Motion carried 5-0.

- 6.3. 2022 Annual Report Ben Swanson

Motion was made by Chair Robinson, seconded by Board Member Dahlenburg to approve the 2022 Annual Report. Motion carried 5-0.

7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION

- 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben highlighted the need for a CIP Trails Plan project that will occur over the next two years. He emphasized the partnership with Snohomish County and the Fair Park for our pilot project: Winter Dog Park.

7.2. Community Development Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben gave a quick overview about the upcoming Comp Plan Update lead by Community Development. The Park Board will have a small roll in inputting our already adopted PROS Plan into the Comp Plan.

8. ADJOURNMENT

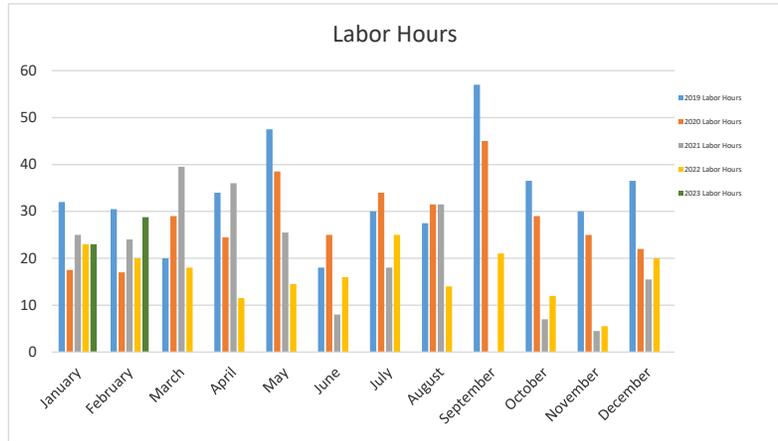
8.1. Chair Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Petrick seconded. Motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Jessie R. Robinson

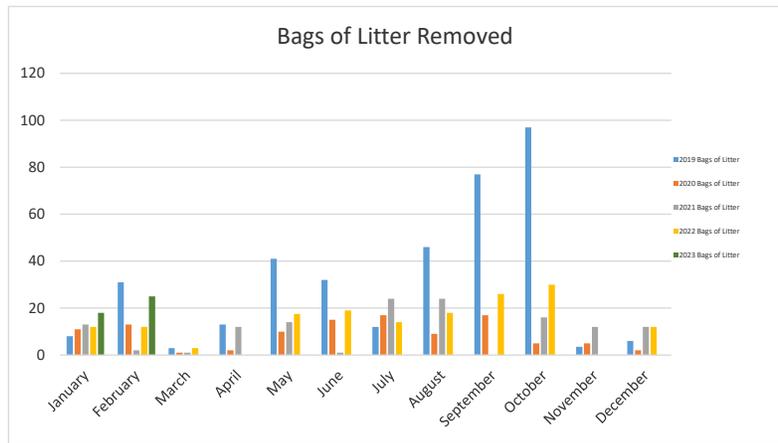
Chairperson

Parks Homeless Response Data 2023

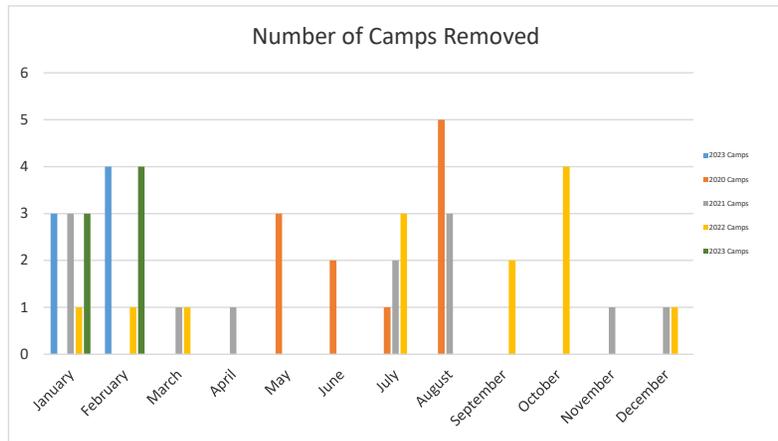
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-23	23	18	3
Feb-23	28.75	25	4
Mar-23			
Apr-23			
May-23			
Jun-23			
Jul-23			
Aug-23			
Sep-23			
Oct-23			
Nov-23			
Dec-23			
Total 2023	51.75	43	7



	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	21	26	2
Oct-22	12	30	4
Nov-22	5.5	0	0
Dec-22	20	12	1
Total 2022	200.5	163.5	13



	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
Total 2021	234.5	131	12



2019 & 2020 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Makenna Ohlsen, mohlsen@monroewa.gov