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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

The Parks Maintenance & Operation staff completed a few important projects this month to prepare for the summer. First, the Al Borlin road was graded from the winter weather. Next, the buoy line was placed at Lake Tye to indicate the designated swimming area. Lastly, the crew prepared and assisted planting the hanging baskets that are placed downtown. Special thanks to the Monroe Garden Club, not only for their monetary donation to purchase supplies and flowers, but for volunteering their time to assist the department in planting the baskets. More thanks to Pine Creek Nursery for the discount rate on the flowers and Republic Services for a monetary donation to purchase supplies. The crew also performed routine maintenance and field preparations for another full month of athletic use.



Grading Al Borlin Road



Placing the buoy line at Lake Tye



Monroe Garden Club basket planting volunteers

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## 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.

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## May Events

The event season continued to ramp up in May. The first event of the month was the **Big Heart Big Smile Foundation's Kaci 5k** at Lake Tye Park. Proceeds of this event go towards helping fund the Kaci Edelbrock Memorial Scholarship. The same day, directly following the Kaci 5k was the **Battle of the Badges** softball game which raised over \$20,000 for the Big Heart Big Smile Foundation. Monroe Police Department came out undefeated against Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, but we aren't sure either department is keeping track...



Next up, VFW Post 7511 hosted the **Flags for our Fallen 5k** at Lake Tye Park. New this year, a kids 5k run and a vendor market were offered. Each year, new and exciting activities are added as this event continues to grow.



Finally, Rotary Field's beloved **Miracle League** continued through the month of May each Saturday morning. If you haven't witnessed this amazing event, head to Rotary Field on Saturday mornings through June.

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## Blueberry Park Playground Design

The Parks Department would like to thank all participants who attended the Blueberry Park Playground Open House. Attendees were able to meet with our Great Western Recreation representative to discuss design options and offer suggestions for incorporation into the final design.

The final rendering of the playground has been approved, with one minor change to the swing set. Construction will begin when the Public Works Stormwater project is complete. The playground project is estimated to begin in fall 2023 or early spring 2024.



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## Trails Master Plan

The Parks Department has completed the consultant selection process for the Trails Master Plan project that will be developed 2023-2024.



The purpose of the project is to assess the existing trail system and investigate opportunities to increase and enhance the trail system throughout the City of Monroe and the unincorporated urban growth area.

The City has selected MacLeod Reckord PLLC to conduct the work for this project. An executed contract and Notice to Proceed is expected in early June.

Stay tuned for public outreach and input opportunities to gather suggestions and recommendations for improvements to the trail system.

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**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: City-Wide**

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
5/19	7	0	Inspection only
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

**Monroe Park Board**

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, May 18, 2023.

Mayor Thomas gave a presentation on the State of the City Address. Staff presented the final rendering of the Blueberry Park Playground and the Board suggested one minor change.

Attached to this report are the approved April 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes.



# MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, April 20, 2023, 7:00 PM  
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at City Hall

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

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robinson called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:05pm, hybrid via Zoom and in-person at Monroe Council Chambers.

### 2. ROLL CALL

[ X ] Jessie Robinson	Chairperson
[ X ] Amy Martin	Board Member
[ X ] Keith Dahlenburg	Board Member
[ X ] Brady Welever	Board Member
[ X ] Ron Petrick	Board Member
[ X ] Mariana Medina	Board Member
[ X ] Scot Noel	Board Member

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

#### 3.1. Blueberry Children's Park Playground Renovation

Playologist, Quinn Connell, from Great Western Recreation, was present to discuss two options for the renovation of Blueberry Children's Park. Residents who attended were able to comment on the features they liked and gave input on designs they preferred. Ben Swanson mentioned that this project is dependent on a Public Works Stormwater project, and there is a chance that we will miss the weather window at the end of this summer, but we will keep this at the top of our priorities.

### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 5.1. Motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Board Member Petrick, to approve the March 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

## 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

## 7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION

- 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben highlighted the crew's maintenance projects gearing up for spring, thanked our donors for downtown beautification and events, and reminded board members of the Arbor Day tree planting event on Friday, April 28 at Lake Tye Park at 1:15pm.

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

Ben and Mayor Thomas gave a quick overview of the Comp Plan Open House. Staff noted that it is important for board members and residents to help spread the word about the plan and get more people involved.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

- 8.1. Chair Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Dahlenburg seconded. Motion passed 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:53pm.

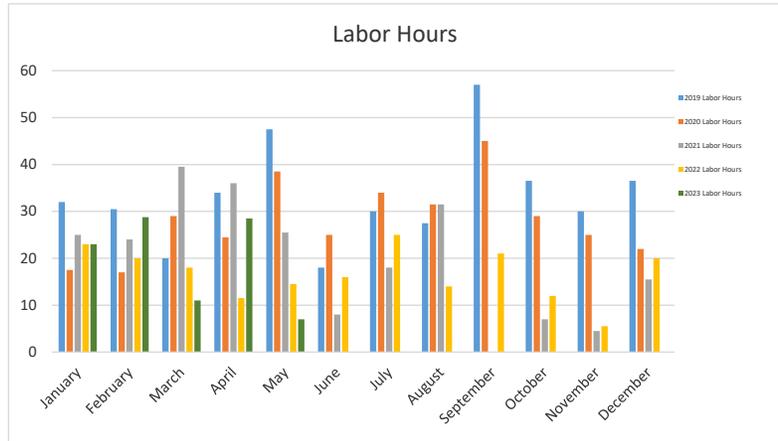
*Jessie R. Robinson*

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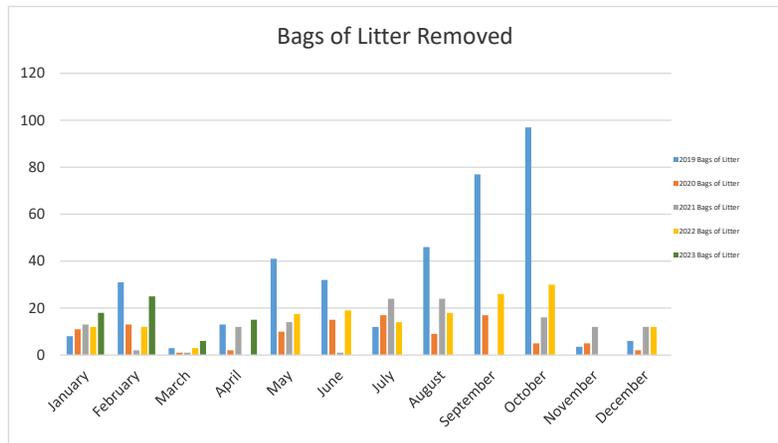
Chairperson

Parks Homeless Response Data 2023

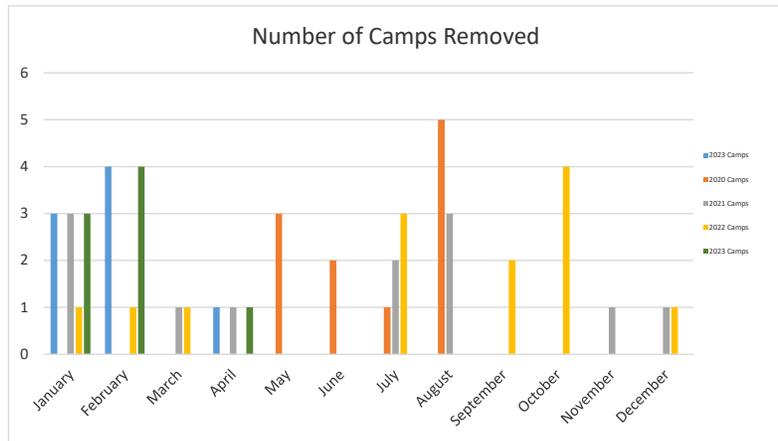
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-23	23	18	3
Feb-23	28.75	25	4
Mar-23	11	6	0
Apr-23	28.5	15	1
May-23	7	0	0
Jun-23			
Jul-23			
Aug-23			
Sep-23			
Oct-23			
Nov-23			
Dec-23			
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>98.25</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>8</b>



	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
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>200.5</b>	<b>163.5</b>	<b>13</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>



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