



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 age's 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

In November, the parks crew worked on hanging Holiday decorations throughout the city. They continued leaf mulching and pick up and planted one endcap on Lewis St. which completes their 2-year replacement of daffodils on Main and Lewis. The crew worked on picking up sick geese at Lake Tye, which included taking a boat out on the water to collect deceased birds as well. The crew had an emergency work order on Hillcrest playground replacing a footing that had come loose on a main support. The team started winter pruning focusing on main travel areas and entrances to the city and lastly worked on replacing bulbs and ballasts on the Main Street flagpole.



Top Right: Chase Payseno hanging Holiday decorations. Bottom left: WFDW and city staff working at Lake Tye. Bottom right: Emergency work order at Hillcrest Playground.



Replacing bulbs and ballasts on the Main Street flagpole

Bird Flu Update

After consulting with the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the City of Monroe continued to post the bird flu notice at Lake Tye through November. Despite a dramatic decrease in mortality the week of November 20th, WDFW is still receiving reports of occasional sick or deceased birds. Even though the outbreak appears to be tapering off, the city continued the bird flu notice at Lake Tye.

As of the end of November, there was no estimated date to remove the bird flu notices. Based on past WDFW experience, these events typically last 2-4 weeks and the event at Lake Tye entered its 4th week in November. However, the City of Monroe is located along the Pacific Flyway, a major migratory route, and there is the potential for new cases emerging during this time.

The city will continue to coordinate with WDFW and the WA State Dept. of Health until the outbreak has passed and we will continue to keep our community updated until it has passed.

Light Up Monroe

The city experienced the largest attendance to date for this year's Light Up Monroe event. It was a clear, brisk evening as the community gathered for the countdown of the tree lighting. To start the event, a lighted car cruise rolled through Main Street to the event location. Monroe Chamber of Commerce President Mike Buse and Director Janelle Drews kicked off the event.

We'd like to thank Mayor Thomas for leading the way to the final countdown of the tree lighting and the following Councilmembers for attending the event: Councilmember Hanford, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Scarboro, Councilmember Kinney, and Councilmember Fisher. We'd also like to thank our parks staff members Matt Young and Matt Donovan for managing the city's mobile stage for the event and seamlessly lighting the tree.



Left: Chamber Director Janelle Drews kicks off the event. Right: Chamber President and Council Members gather on stage.



Left: Santa and Mrs. Claus posed for photos. Middle & Right: Light Car Cruise participants.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact our Parks and Recreation Admin Assistant at (360) 863-4559 or sign up for notifications at <https://bit.ly/3uLsNjW>. Visit the City website www.monroewa.gov for information.

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 & Sky River Trails

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
11/21	5.75	4	Sky River Park – No Camps, 2 Bags Garbage Al Borlin – No Camps, 2 Bags Garbage
11/30	3	0	Al Borlin – Inspection Only
Avg.	4.375	2	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

Monroe Park Board

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

The Board approved Order 2023-01 to set the day and time of regular meetings, as well as approved the 2023 Park Board Annual Report

Attached to this report are the approved minutes from the October 19, 2023 meeting.

The December 21, 2023 meeting has been cancelled. The next scheduled Park Board meeting is Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Court Room at 769 Village Way.



MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting
Thursday, October 20, 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 7:01pm, 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	Board Member
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mariana Medina	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Scot Noel	Board Member

Board Member Scot Noel was absent.

Chair Robinson extended a welcome to new Board Member, Brady Welever, who then introduced himself.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1. OPMA & PRA Overview - *Jodi Wycoff, City Clerk*

A presentation was given on the subjects of Open Public Meetings Act and the Public Records Act.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Board Member Petrick to approve the September 15, 2022 minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Planning Commissioner Blair introduced herself to the Board and informed them that she was nominated by the Planning Commission to regularly attend Park Board meetings to take notes and share information back to the Commission.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Park Field & Facilities Use Fees - *Ben Swanson*

Staff Ben Swanson and Mike Farrell presented the agenda bill to the Board and answered questions. Motion was read by Chair Robinson, seconded by Board Member Petrick to recommend to the Monroe City Council across the board Park Fee increases of CPI (10.1%) as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

7. STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Detailed information is in the agenda packet.

7.2. Community Development Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Detailed information is in the agenda packet.

8. ADJOURNMENT

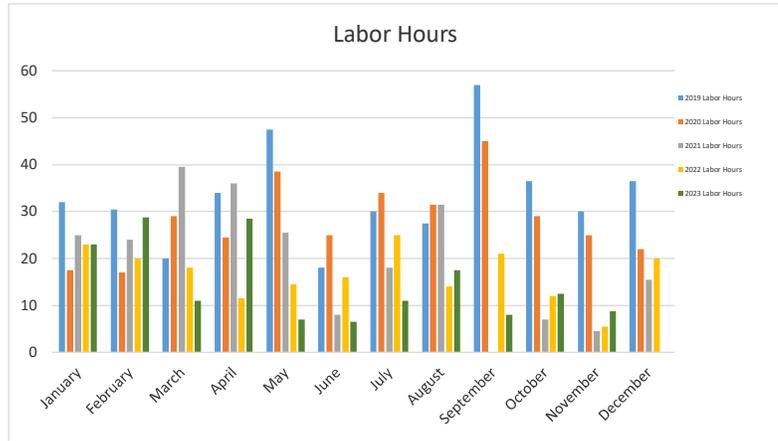
8.1. Chair Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Martin seconded. Motion passed 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm.

Jessie R. Robinson

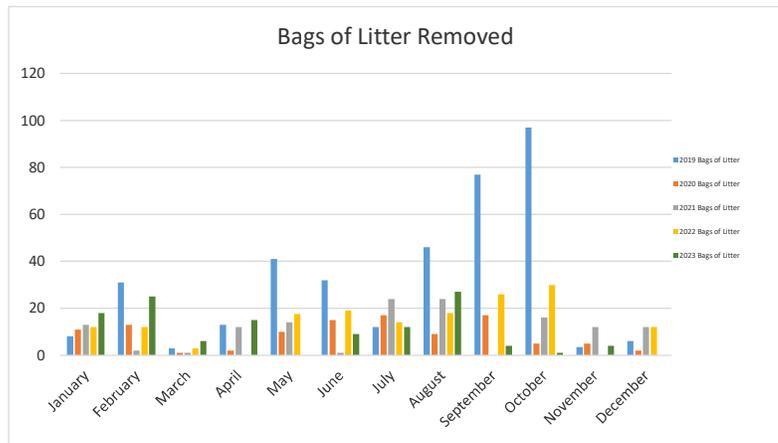
Chairperson

Parks Homeless Response Data 2023

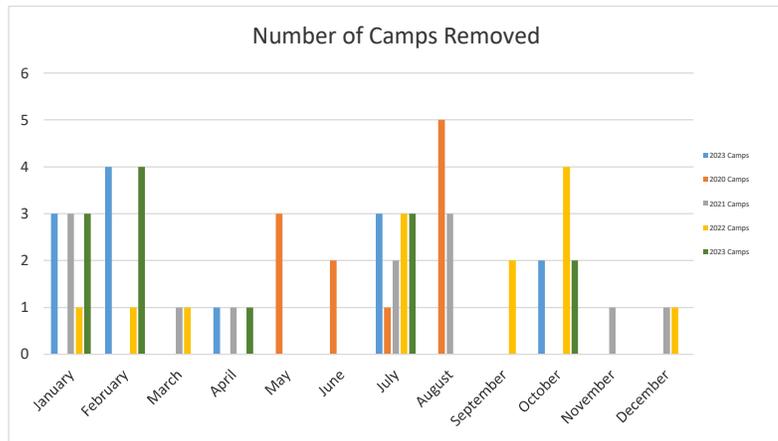
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-23	23	18	3
Feb-23	28.75	25	4
Mar-23	11	6	0
Apr-23	28.5	15	1
May-23	7	0	0
Jun-23	6.5	9	0
Jul-23	11	12	3
Aug-23	17.5	27	0
Sep-23	8	4	0
Oct-23	12.5	1	2
Nov-23	8.75	4	0
Dec-23			
Total 2023	162.5	121	13



	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