



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

March 2024

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

Crew has been working on aerating and fertilizing turf areas at Lake Tye, and along the medians of Country Crescent, Main Street, Lewis Street, and the Fryelands. The crew set the posts of the new pickleball court at Sky River and finished up pruning at Lake Tye for the start of spring. The mowing season has started so the crew is mowing on a regular basis weekly. Baseball and other sports have started so the crew is prepping fields and striping for other sports.



Above: Crew member aerating median and posts for pickleball court.

Currie View Park

City staff received a lot of great input from the public on the proposed playground design for Currie View Park at the Monroe Park Board meeting on March 21, 2024. At the meeting, the public was

presented with two design options to replace the existing play structures. The City received meaningful feedback from neighborhood residents on the proposed equipment including the preferred playground option C and color preferences. Option C replaces the traditional platform playground design for the older kids by substituting it with a rope dome and climbers. A traditional play structure is also incorporated for kids 2-5. Additionally, residents requested a fence separating the proposed playground and the adjacent parking lot, one additional seating area, and a drinking fountain.

Based on the feedback from the meeting, City staff will add a 4-foot chain link fence separating the play area from the parking lot that will function as both a visual and physical safety barrier and along with additional seating using existing 2024 capital funds. However, the earliest timeframe for adding the drinking fountain installation would have to take place in 2025 due to scoping and permitting. The work, including tapping and running a waterline from 154th St SE mainline, is estimated to exceed the existing 2024 capital budget, so funding will be requested in the next biennial budget cycle.

The new play equipment includes features that: encourage multi-generational play; are ADA inclusive and intentionally break down physical and social barriers to play; a playful theme that enhances the visual appeal of the park; and advanced climbing challenges and motion activities that appeal to older children who seek a more adventurous play experience. Surfacing improvements such as the use of ADA approved rubberized surfacing are also part of the playground design.



Above: Currie View Park Option C

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.

27th Annual Easter Egg Hunt March 30th

March wrapped up with the 27th Annual Monroe Community Egg Hunt at Lake Tye Park. The weather was beautiful, and the hunt was a success. We had 28 businesses/organizations sign up to host a booth for the event. New this year, the event included a translator for our Spanish speaking community. We had about 12 volunteers to help with the event who came from Fred Meyer, Monroe Rotary, Kiwanis Club of Monroe, and two new Monroe residents. We'd like to give a special thank you to our sponsors for helping to make this event possible: Big Dogs, Edward Jones, Evergreen State Fair Park, Fred Meyer, Galaxy Theatre, John L. Scott, Jones Family Orthodontics, Monroe Police Officers Association, Park Place Community Church, Republic Services, Rotary Club of Monroe, VFW Post 7511, and Walmart.

2024 City of Monroe Events Brochure

The 2024 City of Monroe events brochure was published in March and was mailed to 14,486 residents. The brochure is available at multiple locations throughout town such as the Visitor Center



and Monroe Library and will be distributed at events. We have a digital copy as well at: <https://issuu.com/monroewa10/docs/brochure-2024-edited>

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
3/18	8	15	Sky River Park – Inspections, Garbage Removal Al Borlin – Inspections, Garbage Removal
3/18	2	0	Lake Tye – Inspections, Garbage Removal Stanton – Inspections, Garbage Removal
Avg.	5	7.5	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

Monroe Park Board

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, March 21, 2024.

Presented two options for Currie View Park.

Attached to this report are the approved minutes from the February 15, 2024 meeting.

The next scheduled Park Board meeting is Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Court Room at 769 Village Way.



MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2024, 7:00 PM
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at the Parks & Public Works Building at
769 Village Way

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

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robinson called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:02pm, hybrid via Zoom and in-person in the Court Room at 769 Village Way.

2. ROLL CALL

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessie Robinson	Chairperson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy Martin	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	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"/>	Lisa Brown	Board Member

Board Members Brown and Medina were absent.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1. Trail Master Plan Update - *Ben Swanson*

Consultant David Saxon reviewed Transpo Coordination and Public Involvement Surveys

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Board Member Petrick, to approve the January 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 4- 0

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 5.1. Citizens were present and talked about additional land for use.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1. Chapter 7: Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan for additional review - *Ben Swanson*

Motion was made by Board Member Petrick, second by Welever, to approve Chapter 7 Comp Plan. Motion carried 4-0.

7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION

- 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben Swanson highlighted the Parks Crew removing problem trees throughout the city and inspecting playgrounds.

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

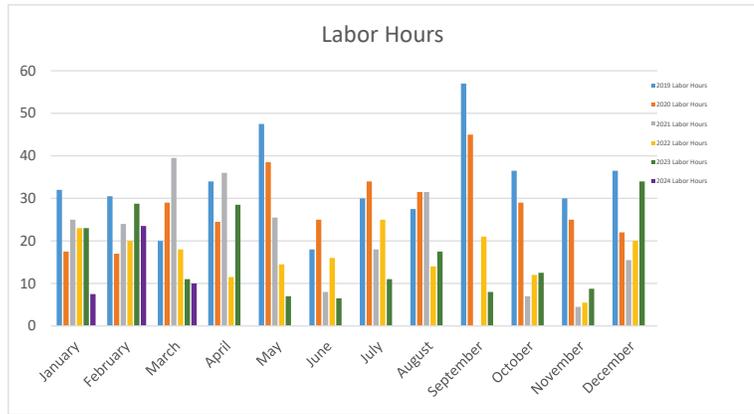
Ben Swanson highlighted the PUD Project as well as Code Enforcement Cases for 2023.

8. ADJOURNMENT

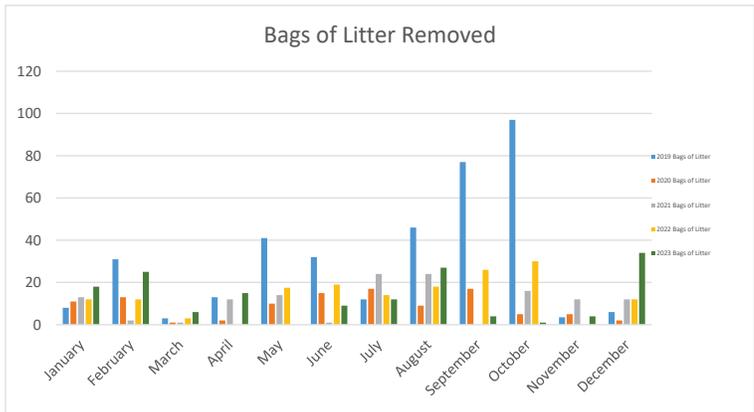
- 8.1. Chair Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Petrick seconded. Motioned passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm

Chairperson

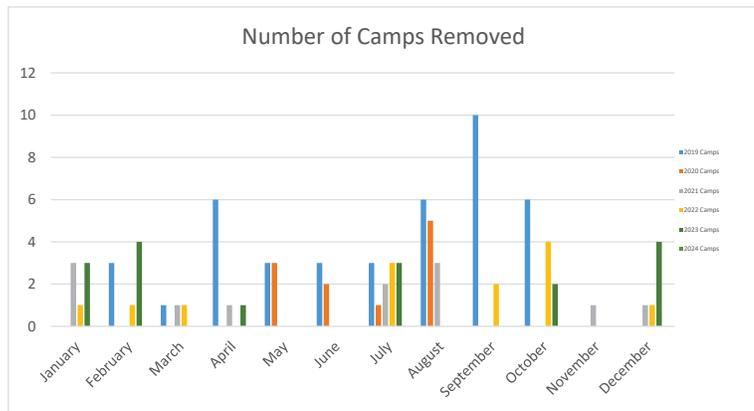
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-24	7.5	0	0
Feb-24	23.5	22.5	0
Mar-24	10	15	0
Apr-24			
May-24			
Jun-24			
Jul-24			
Aug-24			
Sep-24			
Oct-24			
Nov-24			
Dec-24			
Total 2024	41	37.5	0



	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	34	34	4
Total 2023	196.5	155	17



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



2019-2021 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Shelley Rowe srowe@monroewa.gov