



# City of Columbia, Missouri

## Meeting Minutes

### Parks and Recreation Commission

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Thursday, May 16, 2019

7:00 PM

Regular

ARC Meeting Room,  
1701 W Ash

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Blevins called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Marin Blevins, Sue Davis, Daniel Devine, Meredith Donaldson, Ted Farnen and Chad Henry

**Excused:** 1 - Linda Hutton

#### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on a motion by Farnen, seconded by Donaldson.  
Motion passed 6-0.

#### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved on a motion by Devine, seconded by Davis. Motion passed 6-0.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORT

Park Services Manager Gabe Huffington shared these updates: Park Maintenance has increased work with 1,055 hours of shelter and restroom cleanup, trash pickup and recycling; storms resulted in 38 hours of tunnel and trail cleanup; and 49 warnings were issued by the Park Ranger in April. Recreation Services Manager Erika Coffman shared these highlights: increases in activity web registrations, Hickman water exercise classes, golf course revenue and total hours worked for Boone County Family Resources.

The monthly report was approved on a motion by Farnen, seconded by Henry.  
Motion passed 6-0.

#### V. OLD BUSINESS

None

**VI. NEW BUSINESS***Rezoning - Auburn Hills Park area*

Huffington shared a map of the area which is at the intersection of Highway 763 and Brown School Station Road, near Auburn Hills Park and the future Cow Branch Trail. The request is to rezone the property to mixed use neighborhood and mixed use office.

Henry asked if there would be opportunity to build the future trail as part of the new development?

Huffington said he'd have to look into it.

Farnen made a motion, seconded by Davis, that the Commission does not see any adverse impacts to the park or future trail from the rezoning request. Motion passed 6-0.

*Emergency phone report*

Huffington shared information about the department's emergency phones. He showed a map showing current inventory of 13 phones, mostly on the MKT Trail and at Stephens Lake Park. Some of the phones have been in place since the 1980s. The cost of all 13 phones is \$5,760 per year. From January 1, 2018 to present, there were 215 total calls. Only six of them were legitimate calls, and three were for the same incident. Most were phone malfunctions or accidental.

Staff is recommending four emergency phones at MKT trailheads at Flat Branch Park, Stadium and Forum Nature Area, as well as Stephens Lake Park beach. Staff would contact the County to see if they wished to take over the phones on their portion of the MKT.

Next steps will be to proceed with this plan unless otherwise directed by the Commission and City Council.

Farnen complimented staff and said it was a good plan. He asked if Council approval would be needed?

Griggs said that would be up to the City Manager. It could be a staff report.

Devine said he had looked for the phones on his last trail ride, he had not really noticed them before. He commented with the number of cell phones, they likely are not needed but it's worth to discuss if that the existence of the phones helped someone in cardiac arrest, it would be worth the cost.

Farnen asked that staff keep Jay Dix Station in mind for the possibility of a phone in the future.

*Commission tour: June 20*

The next Commission meeting will be held at 5 pm with dinner and park tour. Huffington shared this list of sites:

- Lions-Stephens Park
- Columbia Sports Fieldhouse
- Gans Creek Recreation Area - Cross Country
- Clary-Shy Pavilion

- Oakwood Hills Park
- Cosmo Bocce Courts
- Antimi Sports Complex

Davis said she would like to see the PMC greenhouse again if possible.

Huffington said it could be added if there is time either before the meeting starts or right after.

## VII. REPORTS

### *Council Items*

Griggs shared these updates:

African American Trail was discussed by Council. The idea of the trail is to be a walkable loop though there was some sentiment for a larger project. The Committee wishes to keep it walkable at this point in time. Also, the route is being revised to accommodate the Cemetery Board's wish to not have it go through the cemetery. Rather, a marker will be placed at the entrance to the cemetery.

Farnen asked about promotional materials?

Griggs said the Office of Cultural Affairs will likely do something similar to the brochure for the Walking Art Tour.

In other Council updates, the Council heard a report on the Bear Creek Park playground, approved agreement with MU for the cross country course and approved option 1 for the expansion of Flat Branch Park with the directive for staff to work out an agreement with the neighboring property owner.

Farnen asked about the property at MBS?

Griggs said Council had approved that acquisition in April, and that the land will be kept natural and added to the natural resource inventory.

### *Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission Report*

The May meeting was cancelled.

### *Capital Project Report*

Huffington shared these updates:

**Oakwood Hills Park:** new playground being installed.

**Cosmo bocce courts:** project being completed with repurposed shelters for shade.

**Grindstone Creek Trail:** honeysuckle being removed as a Missouri Department of Conservation project.

**Columbia Sports Fieldhouse:** progressing with roof and wall panels going in.

**Gans Creek Cross Country:** finish line structure being installed.

**Clary Shy Ag Park:** weekday market recently opened, photos shown of progress.

**Clyde Wilson Park:** entrance renovations nearly complete.

**Lions-Stephens Park:** new concrete pad installed.

**Antimi Sports Complex:** bullpen tarp pad installed.

**Splat:** obstacles being built for junior mud run.

### *Recreation Services Report*

**Aquatics:** Albert-Oakland will open for Memorial weekend, other pools open May 31. Two more sessions of lifeguard training are planned, with the

need for more guards.

**Tons of Trucks:** more than 3,000 attended the annual event at the Mall.

**Yappy Hour:** more than 550 dogs and their owners attended.

**Earth Day:** bike valet and kids activities organized by Parks and Recreation.

**SLP Amphitheater Concert:** event moved to the Library because of weather with about 250 in attendance.

**Movies in the Park:** about 300 in attendance at first movie of the summer.

**Golf:** three person scramble recently held.

**ARC:** facility has hosted a lot of school parties lately.

**Heritage Day Block Party:** held at Douglass Park.

**Youth Intro Track Meet:** more than 100 participants.

**EGGstravaganza:** held at both Douglass and Indian Hills Parks.

**Preschool:** Paw Patrol party held.

**Life Enrichment at Hillcrest:** more than 30 enrolled in Tae Kwon Do.

**Upcoming Events:** National Trails Day, Amphitheater Concert Series (Missouri Symphony Society), DJ in the Park, Lawn Chair Concert Series, Movies in the Park, Shred Fest, Whitegate Block Party, Family Fun Fest and Splat.

**Upcoming Tournaments:** Rockers Softball Tournament, Grand Slam Baseball Tournament, Tuesday Night Golf Leagues, Family Night at L.A. Nickell, Frank Classens Memorial Shotgun, St. Jude's Classic, Senior Show Me Games, Columbia Board of Realtors and Plumbers Supply Shotgun.

## VIII. STAFF COMMENTS

Griggs informed the Commission that Brendon Steenberg was appointed to the Ward 3 seat and Henry was reappointed to his seat. Griggs told the Commission that there are two grand openings coming up: the bocce courts at Cosmo Park on July 10 and the Ag Park on July 13.

## IX. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Davis asked about a recent sign posted at Stephens Lake Park to watch your valuables. She asked if there was a problem?

Huffington said there was not, it's just a reminder with the park getting busier, for park visitors to lock their cars.

Blevins asked about the Fire in the Sky VIP area, and what duties would be expected?

Griggs said staff would bring more information to the June meeting.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**XI. NEXT MEETING DATE**

June 20 at 5 p.m.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Farnen made a motion, seconded by Donaldson to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0; meeting adjourned at 8:15.**

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