

MINUTES  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee  
November 10, 2012  
9:00 a.m.

Attendance:

Tom McCarthy	Cindy Lau	Darcy Capstick	Barry Flachsbart, Council Liaison
Tricia Whelan	Mike Whelan	Gary Stein	Steve Koudelis
John Gruender	Michelle Keesal	Guy Tilman	Bill Dowdy

Michelle Keesal called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Bill Dowdy made a motion to approve the October 13, 2012, minutes with one correction: Cindy Lau called the meeting to order rather than Tom McCarthy. Cindy Lau seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Tour D Parks Update:

Cindy Lau discussed the Tour D Parks update. She stated that the following members were heading subcommittees for the individual parks:

Guy Tilman: Dierberg Meditation Park  
Gary Stein: Central Park  
Tricia Whelan: Eberwein Park

Guy Tilman discussed the Meditation Park plan. He is getting in touch with Montgomery Bank to determine their level of interest in helping with and/or sponsoring the Meditation Park during the Tour D Parks. He will visit with the Manager of the Montgomery Bank Branch that is next to Meditation Park. He may decide to move the event to the New Rivers Edge Park. Tom McCarthy asked about sponsorships. Guy Tilman stated that he is still in the early stages of gathering information. Tom McCarthy discussed the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary plans. Darcy Capstick asked about the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo. Tom McCarthy said it was in the process of finalization and he will provide the committee with updated information at the next meeting.

There was a question raised about the date of the Tour D Parks. Michelle Keesal will email the Tour D Parks event date to all committee members. Tom McCarthy will review the date selected to ensure availability of the Park sites. The time of the event will be noon to 2:00 p.m.

Gary Stein discussed the ice cream social at Central park. Ted Drewes pricing is \$1.40 to \$1.60. He also went to Sheridan's and they are under new management/ownership. They are interested in participating in the event but their prices are 30% to 40% higher. They have an ice cream bar. Ted Drewe's won't deliver but Sheridan's will deliver. If we want Sheridan's we can try to negotiate a lower price. We would like to give Sheridan's the opportunity to sponsor since they are part of the Chesterfield community. Barry Flachsbart commented that the owners of Velvet Freeze live in Chesterfield and are involved in Chamber events. Gary Stein stated that he would talk to Sheridan's again to see if they will come down on their pricing as they may do so just for the exposure.

Tricia Whelan discussed Eberwein Park. She is working with the Bubble Bus people who will come and provide bubbles for two hours. She is also working with Shane Mayer to get some sort of hay/carriage ride. Tricia Whelan is meeting with Stacey Morse of Chesterfield Arts to determine a dog related art project to showcase the Park such as a dog chair/sculpture and a craft that the kids could do during the event.

Cindy Lau thanked the subcommittee for their input and discussed the community aspect of the Tour D Parks event. Tom McCarthy discussed the "Park Crawl". He suggested adding the caption "Park Crawl" to the event promotion.

Cindy Lau discussed the new Rivers Edge Park.

#### Monthly Report Review:

Tom McCarthy discussed the monthly news update from Parks and Recreation. Bill Dowdy stated that he appreciated the emailed information. Tom McCarthy stated that the September information will be ready at the end of November. He submits it to Council then it is sent to the advisory members. Bill Dowdy asked about the updated list of citizens advisory members. Tom McCarthy stated that he would update the list and forward it to the advisory members. Going forward the list will be updated annually. Tom McCarthy discussed having a Park Binder Packet of information for new members.

Cindy Lau asked about future planning for the various projects coming up. Tom McCarthy said he would have information about the progress of the parks at the next meeting. Tom McCarthy discussed the year end review. He received information about the first Tour D Parks and stated it was a success and we are excited to do it again. Tom McCarthy asked that the members send him updates on the past events that had occurred at the parks.

#### Construction Updates:

Tom McCarthy stated that the Barn at Eberwein Park will be completed in 30-60 days. The Barn did need structural help. It does look amazing and will be a focal point of the park. Tom McCarthy stated that the community garden is a success. They are putting in a few more boxes due to demand. Tom McCarthy stated that the levee trails are being worked on. Barry Flachsbart asked about the trails. Tom McCarthy stated that you can now start at the ice rink, go under the highway 40 bridge and go all the way up to Centaur Road. When the new Highway 40 Bridge is constructed, the trail will be closed for a while. The new bridge will have a pedestrian dedicated area that will connect to the Monarch Trail on the east side and the Katy Trail on the west side. Tom McCarthy will keep the advisory members informed as to when the bike path will go under the bridge and connect to the ice rink at the east end of the Valley.

Tom McCarthy updated the committee on the status of the dugouts. They are taking out some more and redoing them. They are finishing D Quad and tearing out four additional dugouts. They will then start on the next quad. They will need to be ready to go by next March, 2013. Barry Flachsbart asked how many dugouts would be left. Tom McCarthy stated there are 16 total and they have completed four and hope to have 4-8 more done this winter and leave the remainder for next winter. Tom McCarthy stated that he didn't want to start a dugout and then get caught without the dugouts being done by March, 2013. The process involves tearing out the dugouts, moving power and water lines and then putting new dugouts in. The goal is to have all the dugouts match. Tom McCarthy stated that he is

also working on getting new bleacher covers through a grant next year. Bill Dowdy inquired about the markings on Edison for the bike routes. Tom McCarthy stated they are working on those and should have them completed soon.

#### Program Updates:

Tom McCarthy discussed the upcoming Turkey Trot. There are 3,500 people registered for the 5K. There is a friendly competition with the Kirkwood/Webster run. So far, Chesterfield has 1,000 more participants. Tom McCarthy discussed the Frost Bite Softball tournament. He is also looking at doing flag football and ultimate frisbee tournaments. Tom McCarthy discussed the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary plans. They have formed a planning committee and he will have more information at the next meeting. Tom McCarthy discussed the dog park. There are 1,023 dog tags issued which shows the success of the dog park. He stated that Ellisville opened their dog park recently and they had looked at Eberwein Park. Tom McCarthy stated that Ellisville had done a good job on their park. He noted their dog park is open to all, not just Ellisville residents. Barry Flachsbarth asked about where the next dog park would be located. Tom McCarthy stated that would be discussed at the upcoming retreat.

Darcy Capstick stated that the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Recycles event broke all records. They collected 45 tons of electronics in three hours. 7,484 pounds of papers was shredded last year compared with 11,339 pounds this year. Darcy Capstick stated that they had to call the police department this year to end the event. She stated that it was an excellent opportunity to see community help in action. This is a standalone event. Everyone was a volunteer. Some people were turned away so the City saw fit to host the event on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of this month. Darcy Capstick thanked everyone for their participation. Darcy Capstick stated that it shows how Chesterfield does more than one thing well. It speaks well of our community.

Cindy Lau discussed Park Monitors. She talked about having someone walk through the Parks and give information to Tom McCarthy. This would be a way of getting the community involved.

Tom McCarthy discussed the girls softball tournament. It was held three weeks ago and there were 146 teams and over 200 college coaches that were there as scouts. The event went so well that they have planned a second weekend. This was by far the best year for it. Tom McCarthy stated that they have talked to several of the restaurants so they can staff for the large groups. It was a really good experience. It showcases softball and also gives the city the opportunity to be showcased. Darcy Capstick stated that Bandanas assisted in the Recycles Event.

Michelle Keesal stated that the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a planning meeting for the Tour D Park subcommittee. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the committee will be held on January 12, 2013. Bill Dowdy asked about getting the Tour D Parks event date sent by email. Michelle Keesal stated she would forward the event date to all committee members. Michelle Keesal stated that she will be on vacation from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:10 a.m. by Gary Stein with Cindy Lau seconding the motion.