



Parks and Recreation Report | May 2023

Director's Report

May was a busy month for the team. Here are a few accomplishments worth highlighting...

- Celebrated Mobility Awareness month by partnering with David's Chair, a local non-profit that offers free all-terrain track chair rentals for those with mobility issues
- Recruited for and hired our department's first ever Recreation intern to help run and support summer programs, events, and camps
- Sadly said goodbye to Brittany Hernandez, Administrative Assistant at the Community Center for the past five years
- Excitedly welcomed Linda Martinez as Administrative Assistant at the Community Center
- Completed preparation on the FY23/24 department budget
- Hosted WERK day and goat day
- Held a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting where we discussed equity in parks and recreation, future capital projects, and upcoming events
- Prepped water features for a June 1 opening
- The Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission participated in a joint meeting with West Linn's Art Council and the West Linn/Wilsonville School District to discuss collaboration opportunities

For further details on these and other highlights please read on...

Community Center & Recreation Updates

WERK Day & Goats Recap

The annual WERK (Wilsonville Environmental Resource Keepers) Day event, which was hosted on May 6, drew roughly one hundred people this year. The Wilsonville Rotary Club generously cooked up a delicious breakfast of omelets and pancakes to fuel participants for their park improvement projects. This year's projects included planting a show garden and bark dusting in Murase Plaza. In addition to WERK Day projects, goats from Westside Goat Gal took part in a petting event on the same day. The goats were part of a contract to help munch away invasive species in Memorial Park.

David's Chair Program Brings Inclusive and Accessible Recreation to Wilsonville

David's Chair is a non-profit group that rents out action track chairs for free to the general public. Action Track Chairs are a type of wheel chair designed to get the user into more rugged terrain than a typical standard or motorized wheel chair. This month, the recreation team partnered with David's Chair to bring an action track chair to Memorial Park. Several general tabling events were hosted, as well as several two hour appointments that the general public could sign up for. In total, the Action Track Chair helped roughly 18 people get out and about in Memorial Park, where they couldn't once get around. This group included veterans, folks with knee and general mobility issues, those with muscular dystrophy, general myopathy, and more. The team hopes to bring more events like this to our local parks in the future.

Nutrition Program

During May the nutrition program served 709 meals as part of the Center's in person congregate lunch program and 1,680 meals to 86 home delivered meal clients.

Grant Awarded for Wilsonville StoryWalk

The Recreation team paired up with the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation to apply for the Cultural Events and Programs Grant that is overseen by the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee. The foundation was awarded roughly \$7,500 to purchase signs for a StoryWalk to be placed along the trail that spans Regional Parks 7 & 8. A StoryWalk encourages both exercise and literacy by getting children out and about with their families into park spaces and reading a story book along the way.

Summer Classes

Spring/Summer class sessions began with two sessions of Healthy Bones and Balance being filled with a waitlist, Tai Chi participation continuing to grow, and the return of a daytime Gentle Yoga class that allows participants to either get down on the floor or stay seated in a chair to participate.

Reservation Season in Full Swing

Our parks and facilities have really come to life with the nice weather. We love seeing how the community uses our spaces to celebrate both the big milestones and everyday life moments. In addition to our athletic fields, we rent out the Stein-Boozier Barn, Tauchman House, River Shelter, Forest Shelter, Grove Shelter, Splash Shelter, and Community Center.



Photo by Shell Bee Photography

City Board Highlights:

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission

The ACHC's May meeting was a joint meeting with the West Linn Art and Culture Commission, along with the West Linn-Wilsonville School District. This meeting served as a great networking meeting for the two city's Commissions to meet as well as begin discussions on how to best serve the students within the district. In May the City Council approved the ACHC's recommendations for distribution of funds from the Community Cultural Events and Programs (CCEP) Grant.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met in May to continue itinerary planning for the upcoming delegation of students from Kitakata in late October. The board is also hosting an event to promote the homestay program on June 23. The event will be an Introduction to Japanese Calligraphy class with Lake Oswego based artist SORA Shodo.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met in May to receive a budget presentation from the department, as well as updates on relevant park projects.

Unofficial City Boards:

Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon

The Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon (KWMFO) received the 95% graphic layout from Formations for the Interpretive Center. Members of the KWMFO joined the Korean War Veterans Association – Oregon Trail Chapter for a Memorial Day ceremony at Town Center Park.

Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc.

The Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc held their general election for board members and continues to prep for their fall spaghetti dinner fundraiser.



Upcoming Events:

Juneteenth Event: (Hosted by DEI Committee) Saturday, June 17— 12 pm—3 pm, Town Center Park

STARS Camp: Monday, June 19—Wednesday, June 21, daily from 9 am—3 pm, Memorial Park River Shelter

Intro. to Japanese Calligraphy w/ SORA Shodo: June 23— 6 pm—7 pm, Wilsonville Community Center

Laser Light Show: July 4, Dusk, Town Center Park

Movie in the Park– Lightyear: July 14, Dusk, Town Center Park

Parks Team

Whistle While You WERK

The parks team was out in full force at WERK Day in May. We greatly appreciate all of the volunteers who came out to help get Murase Plaza ready for summer. The team also continued to work on projects at other parks including Arrowhead Creek Park, Town Center Park and Boones Ferry Park. The Team is ready for summer and excited to see the community utilizing the parks. Water Features were front and center on the minds of the team and community as well in May with the team dedicating significant time to that start up process.



Wild Flower Prep



Building Clean Up



Concrete Clean Up



WERK Day



Parks Team

Regional Park 5/6

Projected Completion—Pending Final Inspection

- Playground Nearly Complete
- Final Punch List Items being completed



Playground Nearing Completion



Victory Academy Students on their Last Day of Work