



**PARKS, RECREATION, AND ARTS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 16, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Amanda Darnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Cultural Arts Centre.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Madaline Barteau, Amanda Darnell, Mike Delehaunty, Debbie Knoble, Louis Launer, Terry Lesinski, Andrew Maxey, Ray Meurer, Tom Russo, John Shetterly

Members Absent: Mike Ring

Ex Officios: Alderman Barclay, Alderman Reitmeyer, Alderman Townsend, Alderman Trupiano, Dan Emrick, Shane Kelly, James Boyd

Guests: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 21, 2023 minutes were approved as presented.

**PRESENTATION**

Recreation Superintendent James Boyd gave a presentation on the Fitness & Athletics Department. Highlights included:

- Fitness Update: Rec-Plex added 46 new weight machines & 27 new cardio machines in 2022.
- Fitness Programs: Rec-Plex has over 150 fitness program attendees per day and offers a wide variety of programs for all age groups.
- Pickleball: Over 2,000 people attended open pickleball sessions during the month of April. Introduced a new tournament last year called "Pass the Pickle" where the grand prize is a large jar of pickles. Added new pickleball clinics taking place this spring/summer.
- Summer Camp: Nearly sold out this summer. Averaging 140+ campers each week. Introduced gaming camp last year which has sold out in 2022 and 2023. Introducing new sports camps this year.

Questions from PRAB Members:

- Does the Rec-Plex have a full-time attendant in the fitness areas to assist customers by showing them how to use the equipment and machines? James explained that we do have gym attendants that are monitoring the area and are able to assist if needed. Most of the machines also have a QR code that customers can scan to see instructions. The Rec-Plex also offers a Fitness Equipment 101 class on Saturday mornings that is available to new

participants and current members who want to learn the basics in the weight room and the cardio room.

- Does the Rec-Plex plan to offer evening pickleball clinics? James explained that we just hired an instructor that doesn't currently have evening availability but the department is currently hiring and looking to add evening pickleball clinics in the future.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Manager's Report**

- Rec-Plex: North ice rink is nearly complete. Some last minute work on the mechanical systems and the skate counter.
- Blueway Updates: New blueway launch site is complete at Lone Wolff Park which connects to the other blueway launch sites at 370 Lakeside Park (Sandfort Creek) and St. Charles County's Riverside Park. Looking at the possibility of an additional blueway launch site at 370 Lakeside Park along the Dardenne Creek.
- Covenant Park: Work should begin in the next 30 days on the (4) outdoor pickleball courts and tennis court. Project expected to take 30-60 days for completion.
- Sensory Trail: Work has started on the sensory trail behind Ollie's Fun Forest at City Centre Park.
- Lakeside: The Gateway Triathlon Cup took place on April 15 & 16. Featured an Olympic gold medalist and a Para Triathlon.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Arbor Day Follow-up: Arbor day was a success. Handed out roughly 250 tree seedlings including red bud and loblolly pines. Those not handed out on the day of the event were offered to city employees. Several residents had requested dogwood tree seedlings with the loblolly pine being less popular than the redbud.

## **FOCUS COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Arts Focus Committee**

Alderman Barclay gave the following report:

- Voting for the Wonder Art Show, People's Choice Award ends at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 12th.
- Next art show is "The Four Elements," depicting personal interpretations and visions of Earth, wind, fire & water. The show runs May 25 through July 23. Opening reception and art show awards is June 1, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- We are less than a month away from the start of Art Camp.
- Jill will email a list of Art Camp Art Show dates.
- Again this year, we are looking for Aldermen & City staff interested in reading a story to the kids on Friday mornings. Jill will email a list of dates.
- We are still collecting Art Camp Art Scraps. Please email Jill if you have stuff to donate.
- If you would like to attend the Improv Student Showcase on May 18th at 7:00 p.m., please let Jill know as soon as possible. City staff Lindsay Taube (TDS) and Jill (PRS) will be performing!
- We have 1 ticket left for our June Bus Tour featuring a cruise on the Miss Augusta!
- Thank you, Alderman Sartorius for your presentation on Poetry Out Loud and introducing our regional champion, Bella during the April 27th Board Meeting.

**Golf Focus Committee**

- Course is in great shape.
- Focus Committee plans to observe the scramble on Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup> which will include up to 144 participants.

**Historical Focus Committee**

- Had a meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Creating tour brochure for Olde Towne. Hoping to have something completed and published by Fall at the latest.
- PRAB member Louis Launer is working on a special publication for Don Aytes.
- Two invoices were approved for reimbursement.
- Alderman Townsend gave credit to Historical Committee, and discussed the discovery of a cannonball found in the 1970's near Arrowhead Industrial Park. Planning to do research as to why the cannonball would have been discovered at this location.
- Alderman Barclay brought up discussion about making the Historical Focus Committee a separate group.

**Sustainability Focus Committee**

- Bluebird trail is taking well.
- Discussion regarding littering in city parks. Considering a littering campaign.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Question regarding the status of the smoke house in Olde Towne St. Peters. Dan explained the bid process to relocate the structure should close on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Question from Alderman Trupiano on how the golf club was doing with tournaments in comparison to last year. Dan explained there was no issue with demand. During the construction of the new golf club and banquet center, they made significant improvements regards to the social environment.

Question regarding if there could be damage to the golf course with the planned GRG expansion. Dan explained there may be a minor impact due to construction on hole #11.

Once the trail reaches hole #12, they will reroute the golf cart path to the right side of the hole. There was also assurance that golf carts and the GRG trail would not share the same pathway.

Volunteer Hours		
Name	Additional Hours	Total Hours
Madaline Barteau	2	181
Amanda Darnell	8	473
Mike Delehaunty	2	358
Debbie Knoble	4	6
Louis Launer	15	103
Terry Lesinski	3	11
Andrew Maxey	5	30
Ray Meurer	4	204
Mike Ring	-	28
Tom Russo	6	17
John Shetterly	6	101

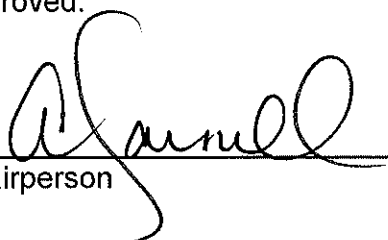
**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre, 1 St. Peters Centre Blvd.

**ADJOURMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Approved:



Chairperson

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
 Shane Kelly  
 City of St. Peters  
 Parks & Recreation Services