Park Board Minutes
Monday, February 23, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Kirkwood Community Center
111 South Geyer

I. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 PARK FUND BUDGET

President Nate Wurtz called meeting to order at 7:01pm then recessed:

President: At this time the Board will recess to conduct a public hearing regarding:

The Operating Budget for the Park Fund for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

President: Kyle, do you wish to enter any exhibits into the record?

Director: A notification of public hearing regarding the proposed Park Board Budget for Fiscal year 2026-27 was advertised on January 30, 2026 in the Webster Kirkwood-Times. A second posting was advertised in the St. Louis Countian on January 30, 2026. Both Affidavit of Publications are in the Park Board Packet and will be retained for matter of record. The proposed Budget was reviewed by the Park Board Finance Committee on January 12, 2026.

President: Does any member of the public wish to speak regarding this proposed budget? If you do, please give us your name and address.

President: Hearing no further discussion, the Board will take this matter under advisement and consider the hearing to be recessed.

II. CALL TO ORDER – Park Board President Nate Wurtz called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. In attendance were Park Board members Alan Hopefl, Vice President; Ellen Edman; Kevin Miller; Jordan Wienke; Becky Jones; Lauren Nieman; Pete Laufersweiler, Park Superintendent and Kyle Henke, Staff Liaison. Park Board Member Steve Ostrowski and City Council Liaison Nancy Luetzow were absent. Park Board Member Mark Adams arrived at 7:22pm.

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS (<u>3 MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON</u>) - No Citizen Comments

IV. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 26, 2026 MEETING MINUTES – Alan Hopefl motioned to approve minutes. Jordan Wienke seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

V. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS/REPORTS – No Committee Reports

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Master Plan Review/Discussion – Kyle received the executive summary from PDS and reviewed pages 1–75 to confirm that the edits were completed. During his review, he identified two errors. He plans to review pages 76–150 tomorrow, and Pete will also

conduct his review at that time. After the review process is complete, the summary will be returned to PDS. A master plan public hearing will be scheduled soon, along with a Park Board meeting to approve or recommend approval before it moves on to City Council. Park Board members will receive copies of the document. Lauren asked whether another work session would be necessary, and Kyle indicated that it is unlikely to be needed unless the Park Board wants one.

b. Dirtburner RC Car Track Storage Request – Nate reiterated the need for the Storage unit to be within ordinance guidelines. The organization would also need to obtain a permit. Jordan asked if they knew this and was informed that they have been made aware. Jordan made a motion to approve their plan pending permit. Lauren seconded the motion. Ellen asked if there was a need for a memo of understanding. Pete mentioned how it could already be in their current agreement and Kyle said an amendment could be made if needed. Motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

c. NEW BUSINESS

a. Meacham Park Court Resurface– Reappropriate Funds to FY27 – Meacham Park basketball court repairs were budgeted at $25,000 in FY26. The fence was replaced by staff for cost of $2,431. The Board also agreed to pay $3,000 for installation of a privacy fence near the court. Staff is requesting to reappropriate an amount of $11,205 for resurfacing the basketball court at Meacham Park to be completed in FY 27 from account 201-09-100-101-620030, Park Improvements into he same account for the FY26-27 budget. Jordan motioned to move $11,205 to account ending in 30 for purpose of park improvement. Alan Seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

b. Officer Nominations – Nate asked for board member volunteers to seek out interested Park Board candidates. Jordan and Kevin offered to reached out via email before the March 9 Park Board meeting.

d. SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS, HEAD RANGER AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORTS – Pete highlighted several items from his report in packet – Items including blowers, mowers and a golf cart were sold for around $8,000. There is an $8600 offer on a pick-up truck with plow. Sebastian has 15-18lbs of seed he has been spreading. There is a new batter's box on field #4 (main field) and drainage issues on ball fields are being addressed. Parks staff has been servicing equipment and cleaning the shop during the winter months. Jordan asked what "missing persons" line meant on the park ranger report, Pete explained that it is people who go missing in the parks. Pete reported that and offer will be made soon for the Horticulturalist position and that interviews are happening this week for the Volunteer Coordinator job.

e. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Kyle reported that ice rink renovations begin by the end of this week with ice removal through the weekend. During the day the entrance to the community center at the stop light will be closed off. Mitchell Park update: Parks is waiting for the arrival of the monument sign to install.

f. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS –** Becky Jones asked what the white van is for that is parked on Geyer Rd. by the stoplight at Argonne. She was informed that it belongs to a homeowner near Geyer Rd. who lives across from the Community Center. Alan asked for a clock for the room, staff will order a clock.

g. **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT –** No Report

h. **ADJOURNMENT –** Nate Wurtz adjourned the meeting at 7:24pm.

Next Meeting – March 9, 2026