



## Parks and Recreation Report | September 2022

### Director's Report:

The arrival of September brought the end of summer along with the closure of our water features for the year. It also ushered in cooler temperatures and has us looking ahead to fall activities. One such activity is our annual Harvest Festival, coming up on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Stein-Boozier Barn. This event is always a family favorite and includes live music, face painting, a costume parade, free pumpkins, and much more.

September also marks the beginning of the conference season in the Parks and Recreation industry. Kris Ammerman, Parks Director was very fortunate to be able to attend the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) annual conference in Phoenix, Arizona this month. The NRPA Conference is a great way to earn continuing education units (CEU's), network with other park and rec professionals, and gain exposure to the latest innovations and trends in the field. A few of the emerging trends in the industry are; art in parks, pump tracks/bicycle parks, sustainable maintenance equipment, universal play, and natural play areas. It is encouraging to know that our team has fully embraced many of these trends, and in many aspects is leading the way, even when compared to much larger organizations.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on September 8 for a park tour. With some newer members of the board and also some recently implemented projects, staff and the Board thought it would be a good idea to go out and see some of the facilities. The tour focused on the west side of town and highlighted the newest playgrounds in our system; River Fox, and the Park at Merryfield. We also visited Boones Ferry and the parks in Villebois that are under construction. The plan is to visit Boones Ferry and the Villebois parks again after the new playground is installed in Boones Ferry and construction is complete in Villebois.

The Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) met on September 21 to continue work on their identified priorities. Among other topics, the group reviewed and discussed the details of the Community Cultural Events and Programs (CCEP) Grant that was formerly known as the Community Tourism Matching Grant. Now that the ACHC has recommended the CCEP Grant program application and guidelines, the next step will be for staff to bring a resolution to council for approval. The search for our first Arts and Culture Program Coordinator is going well. Our top candidate has accepted our offer letter and we are looking forward to her starting sometime in November.

## Recreation Updates:

### Session I Classes Kick Off-

September saw the start of Session I classes at the Community Center. New offerings like Barre and Zumba are gaining momentum, and tried and true classics like youth soccer shots, and yoga are all in the mix of offerings this fall. For a full list of fall offerings, visit [WilsonvilleParksandRec.com](http://WilsonvilleParksandRec.com)

### Mini Hoopers Registrations-

Mini Hoopers 1st and 2nd Grade basketball is back this Fall! This in-house program, which is heavily reliant on parent volunteer coaches will take place from October 24 through Mid-December in local school gym facilities. Mini Hoopers Basketball is a noncompetitive basketball league for 1st and 2nd graders centered around fun, skill development and fair play. Games are played 4 on 4 with hoops lowered to 8 feet. As of October 3, there are 32 girls, 36 1st grade boys, and 46 second grade boys registered for the program.



### Harvest Festival—October 22

Recreation Coordinator, Erica Behler has been hard at work preparing for the upcoming Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 22 at the Stein-Boozier Barn from 10am-1pm. The event will feature horse and carriage rides from Chafin Farms, a face painter and magician from Portland Party Works, a decorative balloon arch by Inflated Dreams, Dewdrop the Unicorn (mini horse) and Dolly the goat from Pacific Northwest Unicorn Therapy, a Donut Truck from Divine Mini Donuts, live music from 'The W Lovers', a costume parade, free mini pumpkins and foam decorating kits, a story time from the Wilsonville Library, and community gathering! This year's title sponsor for the event is Therapeutic Associated Physical Therapy—Wilsonville.

A promotional poster for the Harvest Festival. The title "Harvest Festival" is written in a large, orange, cursive font at the top center. Below it, the date "OCTOBER 22, 2022" is in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The location and time are listed: "STEIN BOOZIER BARN", "MURASE PLAZA, WILSONVILLE OR", and "10 AM - 1 PM". The Wilsonville Parks &amp; Recreation logo is at the bottom center. The poster is decorated with images of pumpkins, wheat stalks, and a dragonfly. On the left side, there are three items listed: "FREE PUMPKINS (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)", "COSTUME PARADE", and "MAGICIAN &amp; FACE PAINT". On the right side, there are three items listed: "STORY TIME", "LIVE MUSIC FROM THE W LOVERS", and "DONUT TRUCK".

## Community Center Highlights

### Life 101 Lecture Series

The fall Life 101 Lecture series got off to a strong start in September. The weekly lecture series features presentations from local business on a wide range of topics. The free lecture series takes place every Monday at 10:30 into the first week in December. This month's topics included: Downsizing strategies, Mobility and Agility for All ages and Hip and Knee Replacement 101. Each lecture has brought in between 10-14 older adults. The next lecture, "Estate Planning" filled to its 18 person capacity and necessitated adding an additional lecture in December.



### New Programs Begin

September brought the start of a number of new programs at the Community Center. Sit and Be Fit, a gentle seated fitness program, has averaged 20 participants twice a week since it began early in the month. Cornhole/Bean Bag toss has been a fun addition to the Center's offerings and continues to build momentum after it's first two meetings. Finally, September brought the introduction of a Grief Support Group. The group meets once per month and covers a wide range of topics on grief and loss.



### Board Highlights

**Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc.**— The Board continues to plan for their Nov. 12 BINGO fundraiser collecting items for raffle baskets. The September senior trip to Oktoberfest was full with a waitlist.

**Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon (KWMFO)** – Plans for the Interpretive Center continue to move along with story text, images, and artifacts all close to being finalized. A comprehensive final graphic display submittal is expected in the upcoming weeks.

### City of Wilsonville Board Highlights

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**— Parks and Rec staff gave board members a tour of recent and upcoming projects making stops at Boones Ferry Park, Park at Merryfield, River Fox Park and a number of Villebois Parks.

**Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board**— The Kitakata Sister City Advisory board hosted their first host family interest night this month at the Library. The board is planning for the high school delegation visit in December, and is well underway putting together the groups itinerary for the trip. Another host family interest night will be held on Tuesday, October 4 at 6pm at the Wilsonville Library.

**Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission Board**— The Board reviewed and discussed the details of the Community Cultural Events and Programs (CCEP) Grant that was formerly known as the Community Tourism Matching Grant.

## Parks Team

### Oregon Recreation and Parks Association Session

The parks team facilitated and presented at an Oregon Recreation and Parks Association (ORPA) training this month. The training was held in Memorial Park and focused on the Nature Play area as well as traditional and non traditional playground design. The training was made up of about 45 Parks and Recreation professionals from all over Oregon.



**ORPA Group at Nature Play**



**City Presentation Follow Up**

### Looking to Electric

The parks team spent more than a week in September with a demo for an Electric Toro Mower. The mower is a great fit for the needs of the team as well as the desire of the community and City team to move towards more sustainable equipment. The team will continue to research and test best fits. The Parks team currently has 16 fully electric pieces for equipment including five (5) string trimmers, four (4) chainsaws, three (3) leaf blowers and a number of tools as well.



**Electric String Trimmer**



**Demoing an Electric Mower**

# Parks Team Project Updates

## Regional Park 7/8 Phase 2

Projected Completion—Fall 2022

- Playground and shelters are being installed
- Sidewalks, landscaping, and overlooks in the process of being installed.



**Overlook Area**



**Large Shelter Installation**



**Young Family Overlook**