



Parks and Recreation Report | December 2022

Director's Report: 2022 Highlights

Parks

- Significant progress was made in the construction of Regional Parks 6, 7, and 8 in Villebois.
- The team conducted a community engagement process on land acquisition in Frog Pond West for a new neighborhood park.
- The Memorial Park Skate Park was demoed and a brand new skate park was reconstructed at the same site.
- The playground at River Fox was replaced.
- A major upgrade to the outdoor area of Stein-Boozier Barn was completed entirely in-house.
- All tree replacements from the 2021 ice storm were completed.
- The Nature Play project was recognized by the Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA) as the best design/construction project of the year.

Recreation Programs

- Rebranded Daddy/Daughter Dance to Family Dance to be more inclusive for all types of families.
- Hosted the first ever Laser Light Show as an Independence Day celebration.
- Hosted the first ever Cherry Blossom Week.
- Hosted ten students and two teachers from Japan as part of a Kitakata Sister City delegation.

Community Center

- All programming including lunch attendance is back to pre-pandemic attendance levels.
- The Sit and Be Fit class has returned.
- The Life 101 lecture series continues.
- New programs such as Mexican Train Dominoes and Virtual Reality Headset Utilization were popular.

Arts, Culture, and Heritage

- The newly formed Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) began meeting in April 2022.
- The ACHC identified their four top priorities based on the 2020 Arts, Culture, and Heritage Strategy (ACHS).
- Arts & Culture Program Coordinator Erika Valentine joined the team in November to support the ACHC.



Recreation Updates

Sister City Delegation

From December 3-10, ten high school students, two teachers, and one travel agent came to Wilsonville for a visit from our sister city of Kitakata, Japan. The students stayed with local Wilsonville families through a homestay program organized by the Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board. The group participated in a week full of activities visiting local schools, traveling to the coast and downtown Portland, and even going to a Portland Trailblazers game.

Winter/Spring 2023 Registration Open

Winter/Spring Registration is now open for classes running January through April. This season features special events like The Hunt for Cupid's Hearts, Sounds of Japan, the annual Community Egg Hunt, a Black History Month film screening of 'Hidden Figures,' and more!

Community Tree Lighting

The Community Tree Lighting, sponsored by Nichols Family Agency, had a great turn out this year on December 1 in Town Center Park. A wide array of local school and adult choirs performed. Santa was on site for pictures, and a Letters to Santa station—complete with hot cocoa and cookies—was set up inside the Parks Admin Office. The annual Toy Drive collected over 600 toys, which were donated to Clackamas County Compassion in Action and the West Linn/Wilsonville Family Empowerment Center for distribution to local families in need. Over 80 holiday stockings were collected for local seniors signed up for the Home Delivered Meals program through the Community Center.



Recreation Updates

A delegation of ten students, two teachers, and one travel agent visited from Wilsonville's Sister City of Kitakata, Japan in December.



Community Center Updates

December was a busy month at the Community Center with festive holiday lunches, a white elephant gift exchange, and holiday themed BINGO. The senior stocking program was a success with the 84 home delivered meal recipients receiving a holiday stocking. The winter weather provided some challenges, but the Community Center team was ready to jump in and take care of those in need. Realizing there was a chance for a Friday closure due to the forecasted severe winter weather, the decision was made to get out a home delivered meal for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Monday (for the Christmas holiday when the Center was closed) all on one day. This important, yet ambitious, decision resulted in 320 meals all being prepared, packed, and delivered in one day.

Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon

Final pieces of detailed information and a few remaining artifacts are being collected as the design process continues for the Korean War Memorial Interpretive Center.

Wilsonville Community Seniors, Inc. (WCSI)

The WCSI board are planning their first two senior trips of 2023 with the January trip headed to lunch at Olive Garden and shopping at Trader Joes, while the February trip heads to Portland for the “Motown” exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society.

Board Highlights

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board’s next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, January 13, 2023. Dahe Chen ended his term as a board member and the Mayor appointed Keith Gary to the board.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board welcomed a delegation of high school students and teachers from Wilsonville’s sister city of Kitakata, Japan at the beginning of December. The board also met in December to debrief the visit and plans to send out a host family survey in the near future. The board will welcome two new members for their February meeting, Yuki Puram and John Bohlen.

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission

Now that the new Arts & Culture Program Coordinator has been hired, the Arts, Culture and Heritage Commission (ACHC) will be working on development of their mission and vision statements as well as their Five Year Action Plan. Additionally, staff and commission have begun assessing the City’s existing Public Art collection, which is an integral step in the Public Art process. The next meeting of the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) will be on Wednesday, January 18, 2023.

Upcoming Events

The Hunt for Cupid’s Hearts Scavenger Hunt: January 30—February 12

Black History Month Film Screening of ‘Hidden Figures’: February 4, 7:00 pm, Community Center

Sounds of Japan, Musical Performances from Oregon Koto-kai and Portland Taiko: March 18, 10:00 am, Community Center, pre-registration required (only 30 spots left!)

Parks Team Updates

Stein-Boozier Barn Gathering Space

The Parks team has successfully wrapped up another fantastic internal project with the completion of the Stein-Boozier Barn Gathering Space project in Memorial Park. The new landscaping, improved lawn space, and increased seating areas are the highlights of this innovative, cost saving, and efficiency improving project. The team is excited to open this space to the community in the spring of 2023.



View of the completed work from the top.



View of the completed work from the bottom.

Lighting Up Town Center Park

Park and Recreation teammates logged what seem to be the most cheerful hours of the year again this December. They spent time decorating Town Center Park for the annual Community Tree Lighting. They also spent some time looking at potential new and innovative options to bring to the community next year.



Decorating the stage.



Town Center Park a glow.

Parks Team Project Updates

Regional Parks 7/8 Phase 2

Projected Completion—Early 2023

- Playground and shelters installation is ongoing
- Landscaping is being installed



Rose garden installation.



Playground nearing completion.

Regional Parks 5/6

Projected Completion—Early 2023

- Ice Age Tonquin Trail being installed
- Playground Equipment Being Installed



Ice Age Tonquin Trail section.



Playground installation begins

Partnering with the Community

Adult Transitional Services

The Parks team had the incredible privilege of partnering with the Adult Transition Services (ATS) students from Wilsonville High School for the fall semester. The team from ATS was a great asset to the Parks team and helped on many projects throughout their time. Please join our team in thanking the ATS team for all of their great work!



Weeding landscapes



Cleaning up an annual bed display

Eagle Scout Project

A set of stairs in Memorial Park got a much needed upgrade thanks to the hard work of Winston Tang and his team. This project was a collaboration between the Parks team and Winston as he pursues his Eagle Scout status. The team is thankful for all of the high quality work this crew did.



Team photo of the builders.



Winston's plaque.



Upgraded steps.