



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

STAFF REPORTS

February 8, 2023

STEVE SIDDOWAY, DIRECTOR

(Please note, a verbal report will be provided at the February 8, 2023 MPR Commission Meeting.)

MIKE BARTON, PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

(Please note, a verbal report will be provided at the February 8, 2023 MPR Commission Meeting.)

GARRETT WHITE, RECREATION MANAGER

(Please note, a verbal report will be provided at the February 8, 2023 MPR Commission Meeting.)

SKYLER COOK, RECREATION COORDINATOR (SPORTS & EXTERNAL EVENTS)

1. Field Reservations

- I am working on permit adjustments and additions for the upcoming season.
- I am collecting payments and liability insurance.
- I am finalizing an MYB use agreement for Fuller Park and Mo Brooks.
- Online reservations open to the general public February 1st at 8:00 a.m.

2. External Events

- I am coordinating facility dates with event organizers and scheduling out the season.
- I am reviewing and approving TUPs.
- On-site meetings are being held with event organizers in the parks.

3. Sports Leagues & Tournaments

- The Winter Cornhole League kicks off January 31st at Sienna Elementary School.
 - 35 total teams playing for 5 weeks.
 - End of season tournament Saturday, March 11th.

JAIME DEL BARRIO, VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COORDINATOR

1. **2022 Volunteer Hours** – The total amount of volunteer hours in 2022 was 5,582.5.
 - Front Desk Volunteers: 2,801.25 hours
 - Park Ambassadors: 767.75 hours
 - Special Events & Projects: 2,013.5 hours
2. **Legal Policy** – I am working with our Legal Department and am in contact with other volunteer coordinators to create a volunteer policy and legal forms for our volunteers for the City of Meridian.
3. **Future Projects** – I am planning volunteer appreciation luncheons and raffles for our volunteers for their hours put in 2022. I am gathering donations from different companies for prizes and gifts for our volunteers.

JAKE GARRO, HOMECOURT FACILITY MANAGER

1. **Facility Operations** – Hours are Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.; Saturday – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday – 12:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - MPR Winter Coed Volleyball is taking place at the Homecourt on Monday and Thursday. This league will conclude mid-March.
 - MPR Adult Basketball is being held Monday through Thursday, which began in December. This league will conclude in mid-March.
2. **Upcoming Facility Reservations** –
 - USA Wrestling Tournament – February 10, 11
 - Idaho Select Basketball Camp – March 11
 - West Coast Elite Basketball – April 15, 16
 - I AM ELITE Basketball Camp – April 28 - 30
 - Idaho Select Basketball Camp – May 13, 14
 - Phenom Basketball Camp – May 27, 28
3. **Community Education/Court 5** – Court 5 is consistently scheduled throughout the week each day for community education classes. Classes include gymnastics, tumbling, cheerleading, pickleball, and martial arts. Classes do take place during the weekend hours in Court 5 as well, typically during the afternoon hours on Sunday.
4. **Community Athletic Groups** – I am working to finalize the practice schedule for March 2023 through May 2023. Practices typically take place each evening Monday – Friday, 4:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

5. **Weekend Facility Schedule** – We are looking to improve our weekend operations, how the facility is scheduled, and/or what activities are offered during the weekend. Currently, during weekend hours, the facility is set up as follows:

Court 1	two volleyball nets
Court 2 & 3	basketball
Court 4	three pickleball nets
Court 5	pickleball when it becomes available

6. **Lakeview Golf Course Lesson Pay** – I am working with Finance, Human Resources, Legal, and Parks and Recreation staff to finalize the process for golf lesson instructor payment that meets state and federal employment guidelines and payment practices.
7. **Homecourt Memberships vs Punch Passes** – I am seeking a better solution for patrons that use the facility membership at the Meridian Homecourt. Due to the high volume of facility rentals we have at the Homecourt, as a department, we are seeking a better option for patrons. We are seeking to possibly move to a 30-day punch pass option as opposed to a 30-day membership with an expiration date.
8. **Lakeview Golf Fee Schedule** – A new golf course fee schedule will go to Council in February. The fee schedule will include a 4% increase on all green fees, an increase in cart fees, a non-resident fee of an additional 10% fee to all pass categories, reducing our trail fee by 50%, and establishing new winter rates.
9. **Lease Agreement ReSurge Church** – Our current lease agreement with ReSurge Church is set to expire September 30, 2023. We are currently seeking a price per square foot to begin negotiations for a new monthly rental fee.
10. **Lakeview Golf Course Seasonal Positions** – I am working with Ryan Roberts at Lakeview Golf Club in the hiring process. I am also training Ryan on the process of E-Recruitment as it relates to screening applicants, interviews, and bringing employees onboard as City employees.

JENNA FLETCHER, RECREATION COORDINATOR (CLASSES & CAMPS)

1. **2023 WINTER/SPRING class** – Winter/spring classes have started. These classes will run through May 2023. We have also moved some youth art classes into the Meridian Pool.
2. **2023 Summer Guide** – The Summer 2023 Activity Guide is in production. This guide will cover classes and camps from June 2023 – August 2023. The guide will release first week of April.

3. **Community Center/Meridian Pool** – As of right now, we will still be able to hold classes at our current Community Center through December 2023. Our youth art classes have moved over to the Meridian Pool location, and everyone else will keep their classes at the Community Center. We will still continue to look for new spaces as we know that the Community Center will eventually go away.
4. **Summer Camp 2023** – Summer Camp is in the early planning stages. I will hire a Camp Coordinator within the next month. This person will be tasked with creating the schedule, booking field trips, activities, etc. They will also help me with hiring the rest of the staff. We are hoping to hire enough to run at TWO schools this summer. All camps will be dependent on whether or not we have adequate staffing to safely run camps.

CASSANDRA SCHIFFLER, ARTS & CULTURE COORDINATOR

1. Request for Performing Arts Proposals

- I am marketing and accepting applications for a Call for Youth Performing Arts Projects.
- The total funding available is \$7,000. Selected applicants may receive a full or partial award of up to \$3,500.
- The deadline to apply is February 24, with projects occurring in FY23
- Full details on eligibility, project requirements, application materials, and evaluation criteria can be found online at: <https://meridiancity.org/calltoartists/>



2. Public Art Projects

- I am working on a plan for public art projects at Discovery Park in Phase II of construction.
- I am working with the Public Art Committee on a prioritization list and workplan of public art projects over the next two years.
- I am looking into developing a public art project with Valley Regional Transit for the transit shelters in Meridian. We currently have two shelters—one at 3rd and Pine, and one at Ten Mile Crossing.
- The mural project at the Meridian Pool is designed and approved, and easements are now recorded. The installation is planned for April 2023.
- A special traffic box project was approved for an artwork piece by a high school student that was recently killed in a traffic incident near Ten Mile and Pine. Installation will happen when the weather permits.

- The pair of 8-foot mosaic sculptures titled “Water Metrics” by Nevada artist Eileen Gaye is planned for installation at the Five Mile Creek Pathway Trailhub next summer. The project now has an engineering stamp of approval and permitting approvals. The artist will be fabricating these pieces over the next several months.

(Right Image: Eileen Gaye’s “Water Metrics” public art project design mockup)



3. Initial Point Gallery

Mountains to Meadows: Celebrating Opening Reception
February 7, 4:30 - 7:00 pm
 Meridian City Hall, Third Floor
 Exhibit open through March 3, 2023 Mon - Fri 8am-5pm

Featured Artists:
 Cindi Walton
 Jessie Swimeley
 Jill Storey
 Claire Remsberg
 Angela Neiwert
 Mary Arnold

- The February exhibit at Initial Point Gallery opens on First Tuesday, February 7th and will feature works by six local artists: **Cindi Walton, Claire Remsberg, Jessie Swimeley, Jill Storey, Mary Arnold, and Angela Neiwert**. The show will remain on display through Friday, March 3. The exhibit will highlight the natural world surrounding Idaho, featuring the relationship between the mountains, the rivers that begin there, the trails into the meadows, the sagebrush steppe, and the flora and fauna of Idaho.
- The exhibit in March will be a solo show of paintings by Mark Shawver.

4. Concerts on Broadway

The following dates and bands are booked for Concerts on Broadway in 2023:

- August 26th: Guilty Pleasure
- September 9th: Kings of Swing

- September 23rd: Summer Groove Party Band (formerly High Street)

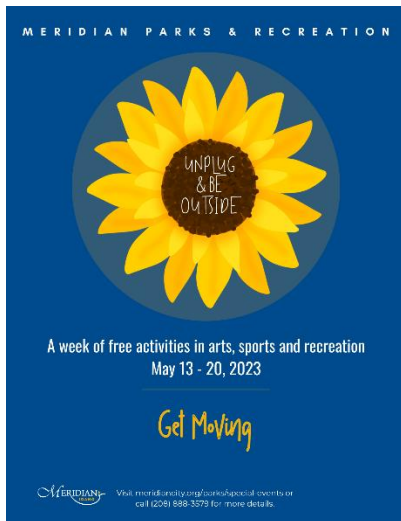
5. Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

- I am working with the Historic Preservation Commission to plan activities for Preservation Month in May. We will likely have guided walking tours and signage out during Unplug and Be Outside Week.
- HPC is considering preservation options for the historic Egger's Farmstead with the last remaining double silo structure in the valley. A developer recently purchased the property and will likely tear down the historic structures for residential development. We are contracting with HullFilm to add the site to the Virtual 360 Tour: <https://hullfilm360.com/projects/meridian/tour13/>
- We are contracting with TAG Historical Research and Consulting to complete a reconnaissance-level survey of approximately 37 city blocks in downtown Meridian to identify potentially eligible properties the National Register of Historic Places.



RENEE WHITE, RECREATION COORDINATOR (SPECIAL EVENTS)

I am working on all logistics that have to be done months in advance including updating the website, adding events to our community calendar, securing sponsorships, securing entertainment, executing contracts, sending invoices, applying for permits etc.



1. **Unplug and Be Outside** – We are moving full steam ahead with planning a fun week’s worth of arts, sports and recreation to get our citizen active and connected. The kick-off has been moved to Saturday, May 13, Field Day is Wednesday, May 17, and classes will take place all week long. Stay tuned for the final schedule.

For full details visit:

<https://meridiandcity.org/parks/special-events/unplug-be-outside-meridian/>



2. **Sparklight Movie Night** – This season will feature six popular kids’ movies, every OTHER Friday evening. Sparklight has renewed their title sponsorship with a 5-year commitment. Both the season sponsorships have been renewed, and I am filling up the nightly sponsorships. The security team is interested in returning, but the AV company may not have staff to service us this year.

Curious which movies we are showing this year? Visit: <https://meridiandcity.org/parks/special-events/sparklight-movie-night/>

3. **Kleiner Park Live** – Returning after a brief hiatus, the outdoor concert series Kleiner Park Live will take place every other Friday night – opposite of Movie Night. I am currently securing bands and sponsors. Save the date and join us: June 9 & 23, July 7& 21, August 4 & 18.

Bands will be announced soon. Check them out: <https://meridiandcity.org/parks/special-events/kleiner-park-live/>



4. **Gene Kleiner Day** – Meridian Symphony Orchestra is returning for a fun outdoor performance on Saturday, June 10 at 7pm. This is always a special performance.