

**City of Smithville, Missouri
Parks and Recreation Committee
February 22, 2024
Smithville City Hall Board Room**

Anyone who wishes to view the meeting may do so in real-time as it will be streamed live on the City's [YouTube Channel](#).

Public Comment can be made in person or via Zoom, if by Zoom please email your request to the City Clerk at ldrummond@smithvillemo.org prior to the meeting to be sent the meeting Zoom link.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes from the January 25, 2024, Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting**
- 3. Staff Report**
- 4. Emerald Ridge Park Design Discussion**
 - a. Public Comment**
- 5. Public Comment**
- 6. New Business**
- 7. Adjourn**

City of Smithville, Missouri
Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
January 25, 2023
6:00 PM
Smithville City Hall Board Room

1. Call to Order

Dani called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Parks and Recreation Committee members present were Dani Wilson, Jeremiah Bloemker, Kyle Squires, Hailey Kellerstrass, Ben McClanahan, Alderman Shipley, and Mayor Boley. Staff present was Matt Denton

2. Approval of Minutes from the September 28, 2023, Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

The Mayor made a motion to approve the minutes. Kyle seconded. Voice vote, all ayes. Hailey Kellerstrass, Ben McClanahan, and Alderman Shipley abstain.

3. Staff Report

January 2024 Recreation Report

Alex Threlkeld – Recreation Manager

Sports

- Held the first pickleball tournament in December with 12 participants.
- Youth basketball is about halfway through the season, and of season tournament is set for the third week in February.
- Spring sports registration deadlines:
 - Soccer: February 11
 - Little Kickers: February 18
 - Baseball & Softball: March 17
 - T-Ball: March 24

Sports Registrations												
	<i>Spring</i> Soccer	<i>Spring</i> Soccer Clinic	<i>Spring</i> T-Ball	<i>Spring</i> Baseball	<i>Spring</i> Softball	<i>Fall</i> Soccer	<i>Fall</i> Soccer Clinic	<i>Fall</i> T-Ball	<i>Fall</i> Volleyball	<i>Winter</i> Basketball	Winter Basketball Clinic	Total Participants
2021	180	40	140	105	71	178	32	68	49	132	New in 2024	1,005
2022	221	71	152	116	89	169	40	61	54	135	New in 2024	1,110
2023	228	50	139	109	77	195	32	87	53	150	New in 2024	1,120

Facilities

2023 Facility Rentals						
	Park Shelters	Senior Center	Baseball Fields	Soccer Fields	Scout Areas	Total Rentals
January	0	10	0	0	0	11
February	0	14	1	0	0	15
March	0	12	4	0	2	18
April	9	13	7	0	0	29
May	15	12	26	0	1	54
June	15	10	26	0	1	52
July	27	7	25	0	2	61
August	13	4	26	1	3	47
September	10	5	10	0	2	27
October	6	2	4	0	3	15
November	0	5	1	0	2	8
December	0	3	0	0	0	3

Events & Programs







- January-March program registration full:
 - Sew Cute Club
 - Flick & Food
 - Parent & Me Painting
 - Beginner Pickleball Session
 - (Watercolor Workshops-almost full!)
- 2024 Program Instructors:
 - **Amy Kline:** Sew Cute Club, Science in the Park
 - **Scott Pearson:** Pickleball Lessons, Pickleball Tournament
 - **Rachel O'Brien:** Watercolor Workshops (4)
 - **Nick Sloop:** Beginner 5K Training

2023 Program & Event Registrations			
February 10	Valentine Cookie Decorating Party	29	
March 4	Down to Business Dodgeball Tournament	1	
April 29	Mother Daughter Tea Party	40	<i>FULL</i>
May 20	Movie at the Courtyard	20	
June 7-28	Art in the Park – 4 dates	120	<i>FULL</i>
June 24	Movie at the Courtyard	20	
June 3	Donuts with Dad	23	
June 6	Symphony in the Park	40	
June 6	Around the World: Mexico	8	
June 7	Learn to Kayak	20	<i>FULL</i>
June 13	Around the World: Australia	12	
June 20	Around the World: Brazil	24	
June 21	SPR at Farmers' Market	20	
June 27	Around the World: China	5	
June 29	Learn to Kayak	20	
July 1	Smithville Fireworks Show	1000+	
July 10-31	Science in the Park	140	<i>FULL</i>
July 11 & 25	Snacks & Stories in the Park – 2 dates	40	
July 5-26	Art in the Park – 4 dates	120	<i>FULL</i>
July 6-27	Popsicles in the Park – 3 dates	75	
July 7-28	Coloring Contest	20	
July 8-29	Full Body Fit with Michelle – 3 dates	20	
July 17	Punt, Pass & Kick	150	
July 19	SPR at Farmers' Market	20	
August 16	SPR at Farmers' Market	20	
September 11	Grandparents Day Ice Cream Social	27	
September 8-29	September Pickleball Lessons	9	
October 4	Charcuterie Workshop	8	
October 6-27	October Pickleball Lessons	4	
October 12-Nov 16	Kids in the Kitchen Session	40	<i>FULL</i>
October 21	Haunted Campground	3,000+	
November 1	Adult Pick Up Basketball	15	
November 8	Parent & Me Painting	40	<i>FULL</i>
November 14	Fall Charcuterie Workshop	23	<i>FULL</i>
November 15	Adult Pick Up Basketball	7	
December 7	Holiday Lights Contest Entries	15	
December 15	Candy Cane Quest	300+	
December 16	Flannels & Flapjacks	0	
Total Participants		5,495	

2024 Program & Event Registrations			
January 4, 11, 18, 25	Sew Cute Club	15	FULL
January 19	Flick & Food	35	FULL
January 24	Parent & Me Painting	50	FULL

Marketing

- Submitted graphics for the City of Smithville Employee Newsletter and Citizen Newsletter
- Tracking marketing analytics to increase our reach and followers on social media in 2024
- Haunted Campground article published in MPRA magazine

Marketing Analytics						
	 Followers <i>(Total followers of your page)</i>	 Page Reach <i>(Number of people who saw any of your posts at least once)</i>	 Followers <i>(Total followers of your page)</i>	 Page Reach <i>(Number of people who saw any of your posts at least once)</i>	 Website Site Sessions <i>(A visit to your site)</i>	 Page Views <i>(Number of times a page in your site was loaded by a visitor)</i>
December 2023	4,998	22,472	1,804	525	1,554	2,522

Community

- CIA (Community in Action) member
- CIA (Community in Action) Community Advisory Council – Youth Serving Sector Representative
- Smithville Main Street District Ex-Officio
- Haunted Campground Committee
- City Wellness Committee member

Other Announcements

- We are currently hiring part-time Little Hoopsters Basketball Clinic Instructors. Contact Aspen if interested, must be 16+ (ARYAN@smithvillemo.org) and available 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24

4. Boards and Commissions Baquet

Matt presented that the Community Awards Banquet is scheduled for February 29, 2024. The Parks and Recreation Legacy Fund, in collaboration with the City of Smithville, is partnering with the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce to host an enchanting evening, "Night at the Grammys," at the White Iron Ridge. This gala dinner honors exceptional citizens and dedicated volunteers within our community while raising crucial funds for the Parks and Recreation Legacy Fund and Smithville Chamber of Commerce. He updated the committee that 21 tables had been sold. Tickets are available until February 20th. Also, he mentioned that voting for the awards is open until February 20th.

Matt mentioned that volunteers will be needed again this year. He asked the committee to volunteer if they were able to.

5. Emerald Ridge Park Design Discussion

Matt presented that back in September of 2023, this Committee provided the first feedback regarding the initial park and playground designs. Both Athco and Kompan took the feedback and updated their designs before our October meeting. That meeting was canceled due to attendance. Feedback was asked for over email instead. Again, the feedback was sent back to the two companies, and they updated their designs.

On January 16, 2024, Staff held a public meeting for Emerald Ridge Playground design for the Emerald Ridge neighborhood and surrounding areas. It was hosted at the Smithville Senior Center between 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. The neighborhood got a door hanging notifying them of this meeting. We also posted on Next Door for them and the surrounding subdivisions to join and provide feedback online.

We had two families attend the in-person public meeting, one family from the Emerald Ridge neighborhood. There were no comments online. Below is the feedback for each design.

Athco:

What do you like about this design?

-Walking trail, shade area, and the mound structures

What do you not like?

-No regular swings and the inclusive structures are not something the able-bodied children can enjoy with them. Not catered to young children. Almost only rope structures for able-bodied children.

What would like to be added or changed?

-Other types of sensory aside from rope, structure for younger kids, and swings.

*Matt provided some feedback he received in person. He was told that the We-Go-Round equipment piece is hard to turn. He reached out to Liberty Parks and Recreation since they have one and they told him that they have been experiencing problems with their being too difficult to spin. They had to call the company to figure out how to grease the bottom. They recommended using a grease gun needle and injecting the grease. The grease has not been lasting long. Then, he was also asked if a restroom could be located on-site. He updated the committee that water and sewer are located in the area.

Matt also let the Committee know that he met with the Development Director to discuss handicap parking, unloading, and loading requirements. He confirmed that there will be a dedicated parking spot with a loading area on the park side for ease of access.

Kompan:**What do you like about this design?**

- Walking trail, shaded area, equipment for different ages, inclusive without separating able-bodied and wheelchair kids. I like that there are several types of sensory play. Love that there is an area for little kids.

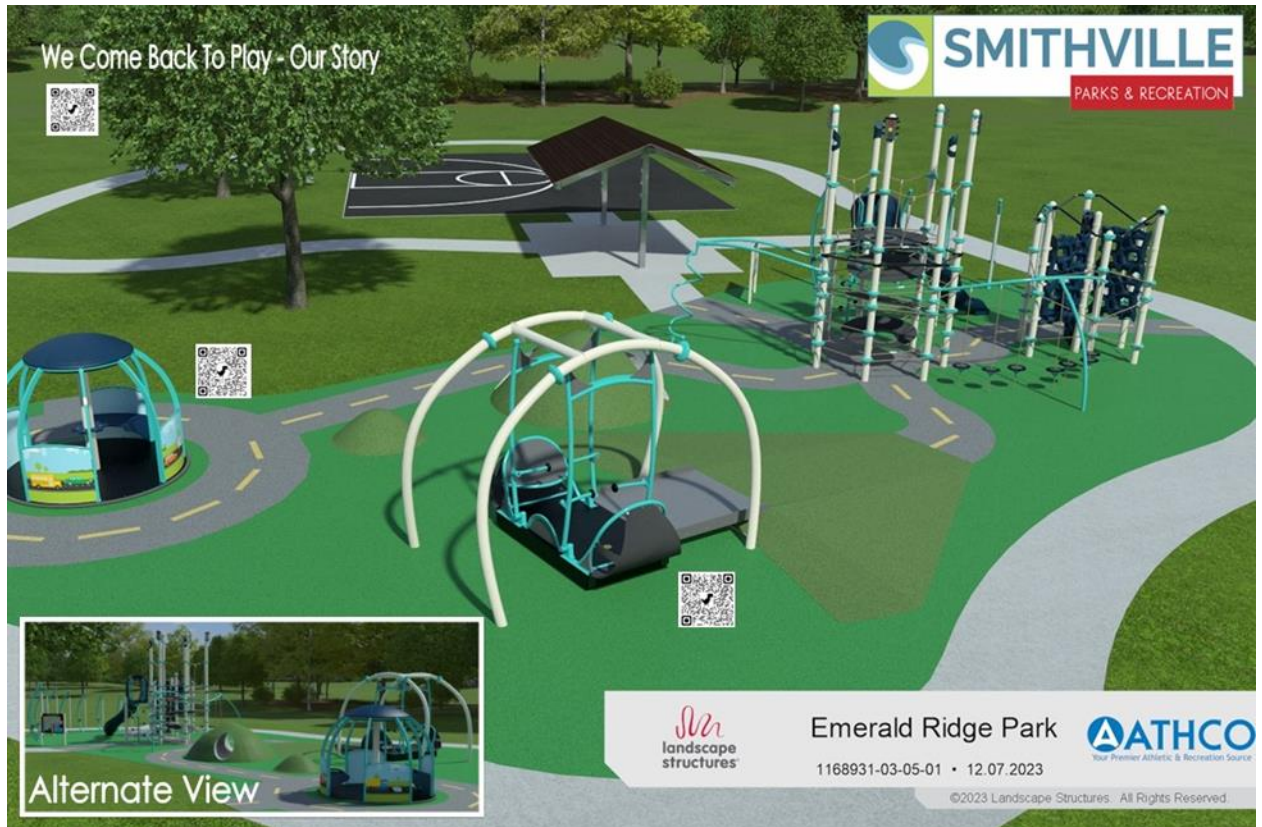
What do you not like?

-No swings and pool slides on the main structure.

What would like to be added or changed?

- Swings, merry-go-round-like little Platte South playground and benches

Matt asked the Committee if they would like any feedback sent to Athco and Kompan to edit before the February Committee meeting.



Athco Committee Feedback:

The committee would like to see more equipment for 2.5-5-year-olds. They discussed wanting to add more interactive boards/equipment. They would like to see swings added after seeing the community comments and look for an alternative to the We-Go-Round after hearing the feedback Liberty Parks and Recreation had mentioned. The Committee felt there were some unnecessary play features on the main structure. They asked to get rid of some and add more sensory elements.



Kompan Committee Feedback:

The committee would like to see a new style for the shad structure. They wanted it to be at a point and not flat. They would also like this design to add swings after seeing the community comments. The Committee felt there were some unnecessary play features on the main structure. They asked to get rid of some and add a different element to it.

The Committee did recommend that staff look into adding a restroom and ask the Board of Alderman for more funds. Matt mentioned he would speak with both companies and see what they would be able to do.

6. Public Comment


There was no public comment.

7. New Business

There was no new business

8. Adjourn

The Mayor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 PM. Kyle seconded the motion. Voice vote, all ayes.

	<div>STAFF</div> <div>REPORT</div>
Date:	February 22, 2024
Prepared By:	Matt Denton, Parks and Recreation
Subject:	Staff Update

Senior Services Coordinator:

Earlier this year the Mayor asked Alderman Wilson and Russell to form a committee to discuss Community Center needs and how the City can better serve Senior Citizens within the community. During the meetings, the need was discovered that a dedicated staff member to help senior citizens would be beneficial. After a discussion with Clay County Senior Services, we were encouraged to increase our 2024 grant ask for the Smithville Senior Center for a Part-Time staff member to assist in all management, administrative, and operational functions for older adults and Smithville Senior Center. This position would be under the supervision of the Parks and Recreation Department.

On September 25, 2023, it was announced that Cay County Senior Services approved our grant for the PT Senior Center Coordinator effective January 1, 2024.

Earlier this month, Amy Alexander was offered the position and she accepted! Amy will be starting on Monday, February 26, 2024. She will be officed out of the Smithville Senior Center.

Campground:

Smith's Fork Campground is scheduled to open on April 1, 2024. We are excited to get the season started. Our Camp Host, Chris and Janet, will be returning for their second season. They are beloved by our campers and work hard to keep the campground looking clean!

Community Awards Banquet:

The Community Awards Banquet is scheduled for February 29, 2024. The Parks and Recreation Legacy Fund, in collaboration with the City of Smithville, is partnering with the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce to host an enchanting evening, "Night at the Grammys," at the White Iron Ridge. This gala dinner honors exceptional citizens and dedicated volunteers within our community while raising crucial funds for the Parks and Recreation Legacy Fund and Smithville Chamber of Commerce.

February 2024 Recreation Report

Alex Threlkeld – Recreation Manager

Sports

- Youth basketball ends this week
- Smithville hosted 5th grade boys tournament
- Little Kickers Soccer registration closed 2/18
- Little Kickers Soccer clinic registration full
- Youth soccer registration closed 2/11
- Youth soccer practices begin 2/26

Sports Registrations

	Spring Soccer	Spring Soccer Clinic	Spring T-Ball	Spring Baseball	Spring Softball	Fall Soccer	Fall Soccer Clinic	Fall T-Ball	Fall Volleyball	Winter Basketball	Winter Basketball Clinic	Total Participants
2021	180	40	140	105	71	178	32	68	49	132	New in 2024	1,005
2022	221	71	152	116	89	169	40	61	54	135	New in 2024	1,110
2023	228	50	139	109	77	195	32	87	53	150	New in 2024	1,120
2024	262	40										302

Facilities

2024 Facility Rentals

	Park Shelters	Senior Center	Baseball Fields	Soccer Fields	Scout Areas	Total Rentals
January	0	2	0	0	0	2

Events & Programs

- Sew Cute Club 4-week session ended. Plan to host another session in the fall. This was a full program. Led by Amy Kline.
- Flick & Food was held on January 19. We showed Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs and served food as it appeared on the screen. Plan to host another in the fall. This was a full program.
- Parent and Me Painting was held on January 24. Plan to host another in the fall. This was a full program.
- Watercolor Workshop was a new offering this year. We held four classes on each Monday in February. There is one class left, all other classes have been full or almost full. Led by Rachel O'Brien.
- Upcoming Events & Programs:
 - March Pickleball Lessons
 - Adult Egg Hunt
 - Community Egg Hunt/Chamber
 - April Pickleball Lessons
 - Little Sprouts: Earth Day Celebration
 - Beginners 5K Training
- May-August events and programs coming soon!

2024 Program & Event Registrations







January 4, 11, 18, 25	Sew Cute Club	20	<i>FULL</i>
January 19	Flick & Food	35	<i>FULL</i>
January 24	Parent & Me Painting	50	<i>FULL</i>
February 5	Watercolor Workshop: Dandelion Sunset	27	
February 12	Watercolor Workshop: Winter Landscape	22	

February 19	Watercolor Workshop: All the Florals	30	FULL
February 26	Watercolor Workshop: Citrus Splash	23	
Total Participants			

Marketing

- Submitted survey for the City of Smithville Employee Wellness Newsletter – asking for feedback on activities employees are interested in participating in if the wellness committee would handle the registration fees for employees and possibly dependents.
- Submitted Haunted Campground article to MPRA magazine
- Attended MPRA Marketing meeting
- Attended Marketing Workshop with Kansas Recreation & Park Association 11/2

Marketing Analytics

	 Followers (Total followers of your page)	 Page Reach (Number of people who saw any of your posts at least once)	 Followers (Total followers of your page)	 Page Reach (Number of people who saw any of your posts at least once)	 Website Site Sessions (A visit to your site)	 Page Views (Number of times a page in your site was loaded by a visitor)
December 2023	4,998	22,472	1,804	525	1,554	2,522
January 2024	5,074	18,946	1,800	374	2,482	1,780

Community

- CIA (Community in Action) member
- CIA (Community in Action) Community Advisory Council – Youth Serving Sector Representative
- Smithville Main Street District Ex-Officio
- Haunted Campground Committee
- City Wellness Committee member

Other Announcements

- We are currently hiring soccer clinic instructors for the upcoming spring season. We pay \$20/hour for four clinic dates. For more information contact Aspen at ARYAN@smithvillemo.org

4. Emerald Ridge Park Design Discussion

Back in September of 2023, this Committee provided the first feedback regarding the initial park and playground designs. Both Athco and Kompan took the feedback and updated their designs before our October meeting. That meeting was canceled due to attendance. Feedback was asked for over email instead. Again, the feedback was sent back to the two companies, and they updated their designs.

On January 16, 2024, Staff held a public meeting for Emerald Ridge Playground design for the Emerald Ridge neighborhood and surrounding areas. It was hosted at the Smithville Senior Center between 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. The neighborhood got a door hanger notifying them of this meeting. We also posted on Next Door for them and the surrounding subdivisions to join and provide feedback online. We had two families attend the in-person public meeting, one family from the Emerald Ridge neighborhood. There were no comments online.

On January 25, 2024, The Committee met to review all comments received and look into making any changes to the designs based on the comments received. The Committee provided the following feedback after reviewing the public comments:

Athco Committee Feedback:

- More equipment for 2.5-5-year-olds.
- Add more interactive boards/equipment.
- Add swings.
- Look for an alternative to the We-Go-Round.
- Get rid of some of the play features on the main structure and add more sensory elements.

Kompan Committee Feedback:

- New style for the shade structure.
- Add swings.
- Get rid of some of the play features on the main structure and add a different play element to it.

*Staff was asked to look into adding a restroom and ask the Board of Alderman for more funds for both designs

Staff took the feedback into account and collaborated with each design company to implement budget-friendly adjustments. Both companies have submitted revised designs, displayed below. Now, staff seeks the Committee's review of both designs, inviting feedback and recommendations for moving forward. It's worth noting that neither company includes restroom facilities, so external vendors need consideration. Prior to presenting this information to the Board of Alderman, staff wishes to engage in further discussion with the Committee regarding costs and the appropriate course of action.

Athco Updated Design:

Brand new for 2024 is our Volo design: <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/42666b78/hRz-2K9XjE2Zen7cN6HnGg?u=https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M367pjV4DSU>





Kompan Updated Design:



2-5 Play area

Play Tower with Ramp PCM103031

Play Capacity of 34

Play Type 10



KOMPAN!
Let's play



5-12 Play area

Triple Tower Wackle PCM310631

Universal Carousel PCM157

Springer Bowl with Footrest ELE400067

Play Capacity of 36

Play Type 21



KOMPAN!
Let's play



Sport Court

Soccer Goal FRE3050-3517

Basketball Goal FRE3025-3717

Shelter 16x16x8



KOMPAN
Let's play

