

**ST. CHARLES PARK & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES**  
**WORK SESSION MEETING HELD**

**September 1st, 2021**

The meeting was **Called to Order** by President Ryan at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium at Memorial Hall in Blanchette Park. **Roll Call** noted the following present for the meeting:

**Park Board -** Patrick Caskey, Denise Childress, Brad Harmon, Mike Hannegan, Kathy Mudrovic, Tuss Peluchette, Mike Ryan, Merle Schneider, Tom Smith and Council Liaison Denise Mitchell were present. Patrick Caskey and Tuss Peluchette were absent.

**Others -** Maralee Britton – Director, Chris Atkinson -Assistant Director, Peter VanLinn: Maintenance Superintendent  
Todd Kassabaum – Chief Park Ranger  
Mike Wilkins – Chief Park Ranger  
Don Borgmeyer – Enterprise Superintendent  
Tina Sieker – Administrative Coordinator  
Leah Pyatt – Communications Associate  
Laura Whitehead – City Clerk  
Family of Todd Kassabaum  
Family and friends of Mike Wilkins

**3. Retirement of Chief Ranger Todd Kassabaum.**

Director of Parks & Recreation Britton and Park Board President Ryan thanked retiring Chief Park Ranger Kassabaum for his decades of service to the Parks & Recreation Department and the City of St. Charles. They highlighted his numerous accomplishments and improvements over the year. They thanked him for elevating the Ranger Division from where it was when he was appointed.

Retiring Chief Kassabaum thanked the Park Board and his coworkers for their support over the years.

**4. Swearing in of Chief Ranger Michael Wilkins**

City Clerk Whitehead lead the swearing in of the new Chief Park Ranger Wilkins.

Chief Wilkins introduced himself and his family in attendance. He thanked the Board for offering him the position and said he was excited about being able to serve the community in this new position.

**5. Verbal Update of the Partnership with Juventus Soccer Club**

Atkinson updated the Board that fields 7-10 have been over seeded and are currently being played/practiced on by Juventus and other renters. Field 5 & 6 are planted with Zoysia but are behind schedule as far as being playable. Currently field 5 & 6 are not available for anyone to use until the grass is better established.

6. **Adopt a Park (Board Member observations pertinent to facilities, programs and services within the Park System)**

Harmon asked about the possibility of adding four square and/or gaga ball to Wapelhorst Park or other City Parks. Staff said they would investigate.

Mudrovic said that Frontier was looking good after the FOLH and the Chip & Seal Project.

Smith asked staff to add some extra patrols inn the DuSable Park Area for homeless individuals.

Childress asked about the pedestrian bridge at Frontier Park. Staff said Pubic Works have permanently closed the bridge and are working on installing a replacement in the spring of 2022.

As there was no further business to discuss Mudrovic moved for **Adjournment** at 6.44pm; Seconded by Smith which then passed.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Mike Ryan - President



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**Tom Smith**  
*Treasurer*