



Park Districts Report –January 2017

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

February 7, 2017

SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- The Cyclocross event at Hidden Valley Regional Park on December 3 & 4 had ___participants.
- The Christmas Trees for Special Families was another successful program this year. This cooperative effort between Washoe County Parks & Social Services, the Nevada Division of Forestry, and the Nevada National Guard provided Christmas Trees for 60 special families.
- The Galena Visitor's Center has guided hikes each Saturday from 10am-12noon. Please check their website and calendar for details.
- The Christmas Tree Recycling event at Bartley Ranch Park was successful. We recycled and chipped 2518 trees. There is mulch available for pick-up by the public. We will use the remaining throughout the parks for beautification and weed abatement.
- Bartley Ranch Park is hosting the "Come in from the Cold" winter family series. The programs began on Saturday, January 7th and will run each Saturday through March 18th. There will be 11 programs, all begin at 7pm and run about an hour. We have had an average of 66 attendees per program so far this year. Pat O'Mara, Recreation Coordinator coordinates the presenters, secures food donations, and hosts all programs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Gardening in Nevada, a collaborative program between Washoe County and University of Nevada's Cooperative Extension will begin February 7th. Programs are free and run each Tuesday through March 28th. Topics range from vegetable gardens to mulching, pests to fruit trees. All presenters are Master Gardeners and they are from 6pm-8pm each Tuesday.
- Bowers Pool Pump House should begin construction in the next month. We are looking forward to the overhaul and a brand new pump room for the 2017 operating season.

NORTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- The second phase of the irrigation rehab at Rancho San Rafael continues. A mid-May estimated completion date will include re-seeded turf on all trenches.
- Christmas Tree recycling Rancho was a success. Rancho chipped 3040 trees into mulch. This is the annual recycling event put on by KTMB.
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UPCOMING EVENTS



May Center Report –January 2017

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting



May Arboretum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Staff has been busy filling out storm and accident reports this month. Storm damage reports were submitted to the Park Superintendent for FEMA. Staff estimates 1,800 lineal feet of trails in the Arboretums were damaged by the storm. Parts of the trails were washed out. Damage was severe to moderate. The majority of the damage occurred on the north side of the Arboretum. Staff estimates 60 yards of decomposed granite will be need for the repairs. Estimated cost, \$5,000-\$10,000. In addition one tree fell during the flood event and another fell during the recent snow storm. The snow storm caused a two day closure of the Arboretum. Many paths were in accessible and icy and closed for public safety. Also approximately 35 feet of fencing along Sierra Street was damage by a vehicle over MLK holiday due to icy road conditions.
- ◆ The fencing project (Phase IV) is nearly complete. Funding for final two phases were provided by the May Foundation (\$44,000) and an anonymous donor (\$40,000).
- ◆ The Arboretum greenhouse arrived this month. Electrical work was also completed. Construction will begin soon as conditions are favorable.
- ◆ The horticulturist assembled new botanical markers for the arboretum and arranged to have the CDS Parks Department Inmate Work Program Leader, Robbie Short and his Cross Roads workers to assist with the installation. The new markers are easier to read. They include the same information as before e.g., genus, species, cultivar or variety, plant family and origin, but the name “Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden” will appear at the bottom to serve as reminder to visitors they are in a botanical garden. The markers are slightly larger and black with white lettering as compared to our current markers that are silver with black lettering. Over 1,000 markers are scheduled to be replaced over several years.
- ◆ The Arboretum will be offering their Arboretum Horticulture Volunteer training in spring. The program is posted on the web page under workshops.
- ◆ Staff is currently prioritizing work for next spring. The horticulturist and assistant will be scheduling vertical mulching for many of the oak trees in the collection. Vertical mulching is a technique used to partially alleviate soil compaction within the critical root zones of trees. Soil compaction is harmful as it reduces the amount of pore space in the soil normally filled by oxygen (micro-pores) and water (macro-pores). Vertical mulching will also lessen damage due to excessive water, preserve necessary aeration during wet periods, allow sub-soil water penetration during dry periods, and promote the formation of fine feeder roots. In addition soil amendments and fertilizer will be added to the holes.
- ◆ The horticulturist schedule tree pruning which will begin as soon as conditional are favorable. Funding for pruning was made possible the by a generous donation of \$8,000.00 from the May Foundation.
- ◆ Rodent control measures are being taken by staff to prevent further rodent damage. Rodents undermine structures and paved areas of the Arboretum. Lear Garden, as reservable site has been closed for 4 years due to trip hazard caused by rodent damage to the paver. Estimated repairs will be approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000.
- ◆ Horticulturist continues to update the May Arboretum webpage on a monthly basis.
- ◆ Plant records and accession continue weekly and throughout the year by the horticulturist.



May Center Report –January 2017

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

- ◆ Donor data bases and donor records are also updated weekly and on a as needed basis.
- ◆ The Horticulturist continues to serve as Chairmen of the May Arboretum Endowment fund committee and serves as vice president of the state wide Nevada Shade Tree Counsel. The horticulturist also is a board member of the University of Nevada’s arboretum.
- ◆ The horticulturist publishes monthly horticultural articles for the May Center newsletter (Botanical Bytes) and a quarterly article for the May Arboretum Society.

Wilbur D. May Arboretum Volunteers

- ◆ The May Arboretum Society (MAS) and arboretum volunteers recorded 52.25 hrs. of service this past month which has a value of \$1,178.00. Job Corps provided 21 hours of service valued at \$473.55. Children Cabinet and Nevada Youth Empowerment interns are off for the winter. Cross Road Program logged 8 hours which has service value of \$183.40. Total intern and volunteers hours were 81.25 hours which has a service value of \$1,832.00. Total volunteer and intern hours for this fiscal year, 16-17 is 3,097 which has a value of \$68,854.00.
- ◆ **AmeriCorps, Job Corps, Children’s Cabinet & Nevada Youth Empowerment**
Children’s Cabinet and the Nevada Youth Empowerment interns are on winter break. The Arboretum currently accepted a new Job Corps intern and will work with the crew for 2 months. The Arboretum retains two AmeriCorps members until August of 2017. AmeriCorps members are currently working to revise and upgrade the Arboretum environmental educational “Backpack” program, and they are exploring new opportunities with other agencies to provide educational programs in the Arboretum. They recently launched a contest for both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to design your own Arboretum patch for the Arboretum. They are requesting scouts to create a patch with what they like about the Arboretum. Contest rules are on the Arboretum webpage (www.maycenter.com) under Arboretum then “Education” under “Scouts”. The members have also been working with the Reno Sparks Indian Colony. They will be scheduling programs in the Arboretum during the seasons. AmeriCorps hours are not included in the total number of volunteer hours. Special thanks to the Truckee Meadow foundation for funding the two positions (\$16,000.). This will assist the Arboretum to meet their educational mission and goals.

Wilbur D. May Arboretum Visitors

- ◆ The May Arboretum subscribes to the Pedestrian TRAFX Counter software. The software is used to collect, view, analyze and manage pedestrian data flow from two entrances of the Arboretum, south entrance and west entrance. The data is collected monthly using a portable data logger (G3 Dock). Adjustments are made to accommodate visitors entering and exiting the Arboretum. The system averages the number of visitors based on historical data and the days that were recorded. Total number of visitor for the calendar year, minus the January’s west entrance due to technical issue, was 818.8 for January 2017.



May Center Report –January 2017

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

Monthly* totals report

Covering 1 months from 2017-01-01 to 2017-01-31

Report generated on 2017-01-31 by BCARLOS@WASHOECOUNTY.US



Site Name	Average	Min	Max
So.Arbo Entrance ^D	818.8	818.8	818.8
West Arbo Entrance ^D	0.0	0	0

^A = adjustment applied, ^D = divide by 2 applied, ^F = filtering applied
 * Based on Average Daily Traffic (ADT)



May Center Report –January 2017

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

Master Summary

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT [†]	ADT [†] x365	Days with data
2017	So.Arbo Entrance ^D	819*												26,414	9,641	29

No data at the east Arboretum entrance due to data logger malfunction. ADT[†] = Average Daily Traffic

* = based upon that month's ADT Indicates months with less than 6 days of data.

^A = adjustment applied, ^D = divide by 2 applied, ^F = filtering applied

Arboretum Tours

- ◆ Tours were not scheduled for this month.

Reservations

- ◆ Garden wedding reservations are unavailable for the month of December.

Educational Programs

- ◆ Educational programs were not offered this month.

MAY ARBORETUM UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ The May Arboretum and Parks Department will be offering their annual horticulture volunteer training beginning April 4 through April 25, 2017 every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am - 11:30 am. It will be held in the Ranch House at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park. Registration and additional class information will be announced mid-February or early March, 2017. Denise Evans, Volunteer Coordinator is organizing and will post the application on line.



May Center Report –January 2017

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting



May Museum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The Museum finished a book drive for the WCSD’s Read & Succeed Program. We collected 293 books for the program.
- ◆ The May Center had a booth at the Wild Sheep Foundation’s annual Sheep Show. Fees were waived in exchange for a donation of a gift basket. The May Center was recognized as a donor and sponsor. We set-up a pop up museum at the Convention Center where expo attendees could learn about the museum and safari history, and were on-site for 3 days.
- ◆ The winter exhibition – Toytopia – opened on January 21. This exhibition explores the history of toys over the past 100 years and is very immersive. Reviews have been extremely positive so far and we are already seeing repeat visits. The exhibition will be on display through April 16.
- ◆ The Museum hosted a Curator’s Core Competencies workshop in conjunction with the American Alliance of Museums and the Nevada Museums Association. This event was open to museum professionals from the local community. Eight guests attended from museums in Reno, Carson, and Tonopah.
- ◆ The museum had a booth at a Reno Bighorns game for Museum Night. We were joined with the Fleishmann Planetarium, the Keck Museum, the Nevada Museum of Art, and the Discovery Museum. We took several games to play with the kids in attendance and passed out flyers for the Toytopia exhibition.
- ◆ The May Center had a booth at the Grand Bridal Showcase at the Grand Sierra Resort. We talked to dozens of brides-to-be and highlighted the Museum and Arboretum as a potential venue for their event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ The Museum will host “Adult Recess” on February 11. This is an after-hours, adults only experience for visitors to enjoy the Toytopia exhibit. It is a 1980s theme event, with retro drinks, snacks, and music. 80s clothing encouraged. If there is enough interest we will schedule another Adult Recess in April.

Volunteer Report

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting
February 7, 2017

End of Year Summary and Highlights

- Washoe County Parks had a total of almost 20,000 volunteer hours (19,928.75 to be exact) in 2016! That amount of hours is equivalent to almost 10 additional full time employees and has an estimated national value of almost \$500,000. While the hours were down from the year prior, the volunteer program has grown dramatically since it first began in 2009. Total hours this year compared to last year were significantly impacted by a large number of Summer Youth Employment hours recorded in 2015, as well as a large AAA project and Pumpkin Walk volunteer hours that same year. Otherwise, each individual park's volunteer hours have remained steady or increased – especially at the Wilbur D. May Arboretum.
- Despite quite a bit of inclement weather, December and January were still strong months for volunteers. December's volunteers were busy with events such as Christmas Trees for Special Families, the Gingerbread Festival, and Tuba Christmas. Volunteers at places like the Regional Shooting Facility, Hidden Valley Gate Closers, and Galena Creek Visitor's Center continue rain or shine. Our partners at Job Corp also worked hard during breaks in the weather at the Regional Archery Facility welding new shade structures and working on the target area.

December Volunteer Hours/Value:

Increases this December could mostly be attributed to a much greater number of volunteer hours tracked for the Gingerbread festival and Tuba Christmas, as well as a Job Corp welding project at the Archery facility and several Eagle Scouts.

	December 2016	December 2015	% Increase	Total for YTD 2016	Compared to YTD 2015	% Increase
# of Volunteer Hrs	1,325.75	358.75	269.5%	17,910	25,720.5	-30.4%
# of Intern Hrs	0	65.75	-100.0%	2,018.75	3,242.25	-37.7%
Total \$\$\$ Value*	\$31,234.67	\$9,793.22	218.9%	\$469,521.35	\$677,417.48	-30.7%

January Volunteer Hours/Value:

Increased hours in January could again mostly be contributed to a Job Corp welding project at the Archery facility and several Eagle Scouts.

	January 2017	January 2016	% Increase	Total for YTD 2016	Compared to YTD 2015	% Increase
# of Volunteer Hrs	906.25	636	42.5%	906.25	636	42.5%
# of Intern Hrs	21	144	-85.4%	21	144	-85.4%
Total \$\$\$ Value*	\$21,846.01	\$17,994.60	21.4%	\$21,846.01	\$17,994.60	21.4%

*The hourly rate of \$23.07 used for calculating the dollar value is based on the estimated national value of volunteer time as reported by www.independentsector.org.



Park Planning and Development

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

February 7, 2017

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Ballardini Ranch Trail connection to Thomas Creek

- Funded by 2000 WC-1 Bond and SNPLMA.
- Construction for Trail Connector between Ballardini Ranch Trailhead and Thomas Creek Trailhead began on Thursday, October 27th. Sierra Trail Works has been contracted to construct the first few miles of new trail. Great Basin Institute crews are assisting Sierra Trail Works. Volunteers have worked to assist on getting the project ready for winter. Bridge is being designed for ditch crossing.
- Trail will not be opened until fall 2017.

Ballardini Ranch property purchase

- Willing Seller letter received for purchase of 3 additional parcels totally 93.27 acres of the Ballardini Ranch
- Phase 1, Appraisal and Title Report Complete
- Offer letter being drafted

Eastern Sierra Trail Coalition

- Assistance grant received from National Park Service Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program to form a Trails Coalition
- Charter and Resolution at approval level
- Vision is a Regional network of sustainable trails that provide connectivity between communities, points of interest, and outdoor recreation opportunities within the Eastern Sierra and Tahoe Region.
- Coalition is being led by Washoe County and members include: Back Country Horseman, BLM, USFS, Carson City Parks & Open Space, Carson Valley Trails Association, College Cyclery, Eagle Valley Trail Committee, Friends of Incline Trails, Great Basin Institute, Muscle Powered, Nevada State Parks, Biggest Little Trail Stewardship, Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway, Tahoe Rim Trail Association, Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association, Washoe County Parks, Washoe Zephyr Consulting, Alta Planning

Eagle Canyon Park Playground

- Project expected to go out to bid February 2017

Gator Swamp Park Playground

- Project expected to go out to bid February 2017

Galena-Joy Lake-Callahan Fuels Project

- NDF grant for continuation of fuels reduction project from Galena Regional Park to Callahan Ranch Road along Galena Creek. Grant awarded to NDF. Washoe County providing interface between staff, community and TMFPD.

Galena Terrace Park

- Project in cooperation with Galena Terrace Homeowners Association to construct new playground facility that will be managed and maintained by HOA.
- Final design of the park has been selected.
- Design and Construction agreement and Maintenance Agreement has been forwarded to Galena Terrace Maintenance Association for review by their legal counsel

Hunter Creek Bridge

- Lumos and Associates on contract for engineering specification and bid documents.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

- Grant for resurfacing of the playground at the South Valley Regional Park received and accepted by the BCC May 10, 2016. This will replace the existing wood chip surfacing with a rubberized material.

Little Valley Burned Area Emergency Response Team (BAER)

- Washoe County leading multi-agency team to assess and mitigate impacts of the Little Valley fire to public and private property.
- BAER team completed assessments October 31st
- Restoration plans completed.
- Straw wattles and log erosion barriers installed in December. No work during January due to snow.
- Funding for implementation of BAER team restoration plans being sought.
- \$25,000 from Dream Tags received.

NDF Medusahead Grant

- Project on-going.
- Volunteer planting project at Hawken fire completed November 19th in cooperation with NDOW and WC. Sixty-five volunteers planted 350 bitterbrush seedlings with dri-water and cages during a severe wind and snow event.

North Valleys Trail Project

- Funding received from Recreational Trails Program to construct new trail and trailhead adjacent to North Valleys Phase V Expansion
- Preliminary design and layout underway by Sierra Trail Works

North Valleys Phase V Expansion

- Project under review by City of Reno
- Project to be bid once Building Permit received by City of Reno, anticipated bid February 2017

Truckee River – One River Plan

- The One Truckee River Management Plan will manage, protect and provide stewardship for the Truckee River across all jurisdictional boundaries. Nevada Land Trust and Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful will act as lead agencies with the assistance and cooperation of a large Truckee River stakeholder group to fundraise and develop the plan. **Plan adopted by BCC September 27, 2016.**
- Cheryl Surface is leading the Recreation Team
- Funding provided through Washoe County State Question 1 Program

Stateline to Stateline Bikeway – Tahoe East Shore Trail

- Name of the project has been adopted as the Tahoe East Shore Trail per the Signage Master Plan completed by Wood Rodgers.
- Granite construction awarded Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) by Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) for construction of 3 mile of trail and parking facilities.
- Groundbreaking held August 19th at Sand Harbor Boat Ramp.
- 2 parking lots and tunnel under SR-28 completed.
- Washoe County leading the Signage and Interpretive Plan
- Project will begin again Spring 2017.

Sun Valley Trail Enhancement Project

- Project received funding from the Recreational Trails Program. Project includes OHV trail closures and trail rehabilitation submitted for Sun Valley Regional Park, based on trails plan produced by NV Trail Works.
- Fencing, trails restoration, seeding and planting completed. Great Basin Institute crews will be back in the Spring to complete re-seeding efforts, installation of stairwell to Sun Rock Rim trail and cleanup of illegal dump sites.

Wilbur May Arboretum Greenhouse Project

- Project construction underway
- Footings poured on November 29, 2016
- Greenhouse structure will arrive first of January, 30-day assembly
- Project completion date mid-February 2017

Board of County Commissioners Action December 2016 & January 2017

December 13, 2016

- Discuss and provide direction to staff on settlement of disputes with Bell-Men Golf, Inc. of past due amounts related to the extended license agreement ending December 31, 2016 for management of Washoe Golf Course; and possible approval of an agreement for professional services for the full operation of Washoe Golf Course commencing January 1, 2017; and possible direction to staff on next steps for the full management of the Washoe Golf Course commencing on January 1, 2017. (Commission District 1.)

December 10, 2016

- Possible action to: 1) Approve a License Agreement between Washoe County and Truckee Meadows Water Authority for a Galena Creek Stream Gage facility; and 2) approve a License Agreement between Washoe County and Truckee Meadows Water Authority for a Whites Creek Stream Gage facility; and 3) authorize the Community Services Department Director to sign both Agreements and future amendments on behalf of Washoe County. (Commission District 2.)

January 24, 2017

- Approve a Participating Agreement Interpretive Services between the Great Basin Institute, Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest for continued cooperative visitor services and programming at the Galena Creek Visitor Center and Recreation Area, and authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to sign the Agreement on behalf of Washoe County; and further authorize the Operations Division Director of the Community Services Department to annually approve the Annual Operating Plan on behalf of Washoe County. (Commission District 1.)
- Approve an Easement Deed Grant of Easement between Washoe County and Maria Hogencamp Tanghe for a permanent non-exclusive easement and right-of-way for ingress, egress, public and private utilities totaling 26,400 square feet on APN 066-070-05. (Commission District 5.)