

Annual Public Meeting Summary Report

Castlewood State Park

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

- David Meeker – Superintendent
- Castlewood State Park
- Meeting Date – Wednesday, September 25, 2024
- Open house format
- Meeting agenda – see below
- Data Sheet – see below
- Number of participants – 9
- List of elected officials invited
 - Rep Holly Jones Did not attend
 - Rep Justin Sparks Did not attend
 - Rep Philip Oehlerking Did not attend
 - Sen Andrew Koenig Did not attend
- Key stakeholders/groups invited
 - Gateway off road cyclists Did not attend
 - Open Space STL Did not attend
 - City of Wildwood Did not attend
 - Great Rivers Greenway Did not attend
 - International Dark Sky Association Did not attend
 - Metro West Did not attend
 - St. Louis Audubon Society Did not attend
 - St. Louis County Parks Did not attend
 - MICL Attended
 - The Nature Conservancy Did not attend
 - World Bird Sanctuary Did not attend
- List of media attended – N/A
- Summary of Discussion Topics
 - Who takes care of the trails? Park staff and volunteer groups
 - What is the status of the roadway design project? Awaiting funding and for the project to be picked up by the office of administration.
 - Any possibility of opening the peninsula? No, our current operation will remain permanent
 - Does future road project plans include work to be done on peninsula? No
 - What do you do if you encounter a trail problem? Take picture if possible and send via email to park staff.
 - General compliment from Lonny Zamudio – Park looks great, mowed nicely, little trash, restrooms always taken care of. Your team doing a nice job.
 - General compliment from Matthew Yates – Park looks great – amazing feat considering the number of visitors that come to the park.
 - Questions about “The Narrows” – Can we pass through there? No, private property. A summary history of that area was provided

- Dog poop bags – Who picks them up on trails? Park staff, volunteers, etc. Park stopped offering the bags and now see less trash on trails
- Is it helpful to have visitors monitor trails for areas that need work? Yes, very helpful to occur on a routine basis.
- Will there ever be more drinking fountains? No, not likely. Will be switching over to bottle fillers eventually
- Park will be hosting first managed deer hunt in December of 2024
- How does the park manage the creek? Do you check for water quality? E. coli readings are typically very low, but park does not check that – MSD does monthly. Higher levels after storms from old, deteriorated septic tanks and large developed watershed.