

Rob Romanek

From: Kaethe Mentrum <CelaandGany@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:20 PM
To: salem_parks
Cc: Rob Romanek
Subject: Northgate Park

I could not find the first try email through salemparks@cityofsalem.net so I hope to reach out to you this way.

1. People seem to be afraid to come into the park through the main south entrance. Most of these park goers are people who live in the big apartment complex and some at the east side. This is because a group of homeless people have taken over two picnic tables put together. I have seen them smoking something that smells like heavy marijuana when I once walked out there to take a picture of one of the murals. One or two tried to stare me down. My husband had to come out with me to make me feel safe. I didn't like it one bit. We have seen a big decline in kids playing at this park even on a sunny weekend day. A chair from another association was visiting and she also felt uncomfortable. Then a park staff appeared by truck and as we were talking with him, one of the homeless came close to us to try to listen in. He also started to workout right in front of her car to show he is there. It was threatening. They are trying to take over the park. They have now been there for over a month. I have informed Jennifer about it so she is aware. It's difficult situation as it is a public place. I don't think they live there yet but maybe they will after they threaten away people from coming into this park.

They may not be there early in the morning but are seen in the afternoon. Not sure if it's raining though.

Possible solution: To move those tables away to near the ash container, somewhere visible but away from the main entry/exit or somewhere else. Keep them bolted down to a tree so they cannot be moved.

2. Additional parking at the SE corner: At this park, on certain days of the year, which will include coming Nov 2 when we collaborate with Hallman Northgate Neighborhood Family Council to have a big Halloween event. Yes, it's a bit belated but the director said it will be the closest Saturday to Halloween. There are certain events such as this happening several times a year bringing in hundreds of people. A lavatory is to be placed so this park will become a community park and not remain a residential park any longer. Please take a look at the lot when you come Friday morning which drivers could use the SE side roadway. It is not being used for anything. The large tree/s can be kept as a good shade tree for the vehicles. The house owner behind the fence at this SE area complained about homeless people defecating there at one time and he could no longer use his back patio.

If I think of anything else, I will definitely let you know. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kaethe

Rob Romanek

From: Kaethe Mentrum <CelaandGany@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 1:30 PM
To: Rob Romanek
Subject: After hours signs for each entryway of NG Park

Again, I could not find the sent message re this subject.

I talked about school children walking from the apartments to Hallman Elementary School using this park as a short cut. A sign during winter hours saying open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and summer hours from sunrise to sunset would be appreciated at each corner.

These kids may have to walk back after extra curriculars and from the church, when parents cannot pick them up. But we believe no one should legally be there after 7 p.m. during winter or after dark during the summer hours unless they are up to no good.

I have sent the above to the site but could not find it again in my sent box for whatever reason. If you happen to receive it later or this one, for that matter, please confirm receipt as you did before. Thank you.