

MX Parking Lot Use by Winter Wonderland

March 29, 2023 mtg notes

On March 29, 2023, Bret Blackford, McKnight Elder, had a phone conference with representatives of the St. Louis Parks Department to discuss the use of the McKnight Church ("McKnight" or "MX") parking lot for Winter Wonderland in 2023.

Met with ...

Eric Johnson, Recreation Manager - EJohnson@stlouiscountymo.gov

Brian Schaffer, Parks Director - BSchaffer@stlouiscountymo.gov

Maggie Martin, Recreation Events Coordinator - MKMartin@stlouiscountymo.gov

The meeting was called at the request of Maggie Martin who wanted to discuss the continuing use of the McKnight parking lot for Winter Wonderland parking in November and December of 2023.

Brian Schaffer led the discussion and mentioned a few interesting points:

1. The Parks Department would like to double the number of days they would like to use the McKnight parking lot from 7 to 14 evenings (see **Exhibit A**).
 - a. St. Louis County Parks agreed to pay \$2,600 for use of lot (cost of snow removal, etc.)
 - b. St. Louis County Parks agreed to include McKnight on a certificate of liability insurance or to reimburse McKnight for any additional insurance the church may purchase to cover the additional liability (see **Exhibit B**).
2. McCarthy will be moving in 2023 and parking will not be available at their facility. No Christmas tree lot, carriage rides, or parking going forward.
3. In addition to the McKnight parking lot the St. Louis Parks Department is also reaching out to Mount Calvary Lutheran Church.

Decision:

The McKnight leadership needs to decide how to respond to this request. Several options:

- a) Agree to the 14 days and the \$2,600 reimbursement
- b) Counterpropose to fewer days and/or more money
- c) Deny request

My position is that the Winter Wonderland is an inconvenience to McKnight and using the MX lot should only be approved if sufficient consideration is received from the Parks Department. What we might determine to be "sufficient Consideration" is up for discussion, but it should be worth the inconvenience.

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Exhibit A:

Here are the dates requested for use of the McKnight parking lot:

1. FRI November 17
2. SAT November 18
3. SUN November 19
4. MON November 20
5. SAT November 25
6. MON November 27
7. SAT December 2
8. MON December 4
9. SAT December 9
10. MON December 11
11. SAT December 16
12. MON December 18
13. SAT December 23
14. SAT December 30

Exhibit B:

Here is the follow-up email received from Maggie Martin after the 3/29/2023 meeting:

From: "Martin, Margaret" <MKMartin@stlouiscountymo.gov>
Date: March 29, 2023 at 2:48:35 PM CDT
To: Sys Admin <bblackford@mcknightcrossings.org>
Subject: Winter Wonderland 2023

Bret,

Thanks for meeting with us regarding parking for Winter Wonderland's Walks in 2023. The dates we are planning to host walks and would need access to the church's large parking lot and the parking lot lights are: November 17-20, November 25, November 27, December 2, December 4, December 9, December 11, December 16, December 18, December 23 and December 30. For this we would compensate the McKnight Crossings with a payment of \$2,600. We are looking into the *Certificate of Insurance* and should have more details soon. We will not be able to offer the complimentary tickets like we have in past years, though. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

Maggie Martin
Recreation Events Coordinator
St. Louis County Parks
www.STLCountyParks.com
314-615-8371
mkmartin@stlouiscountymo.gov

Exhibit C:

Below is audio recording of the teleconference:

