

West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department

Staff Management Report

Monday, June 15, 2015

1. Upcoming Program Dates:

- June 15 – Session 2 swim lessons begin; Soccer Camp Week
- June 17, 5:30 p.m.: Summer Stroll w/ walking safety tips. Start at Tapawingo Park
- June 29 – Session 3 swim lessons begin
- June 30, 10 a.m.: SIA grant award for LNC technology upgrade @ SIA
- July 11, 9 am – 5 p.m. RiverFest @ Tapawingo Park
- July 20: Football Skills Camp Week

2. Pennie Ainsworth, Assistant Superintendent's Report

- a. The Senior Games used the Arni Cohen south field for the softball event and the area between the West Lafayette soccer fields and the Michaud-Sinninger Woods for their croquet event.
- b. Coed and the Men's Softball League are going well. Only have had one game cancelled in the last 4 weeks due to the weather.
- c. Precision Concrete Cutting is in the area and will start work on trip hazards in our Parks. CDBG funds will pay for the work.
- d. All but one slot has been filled for entertainment for our 20th annual Global Fest. Our next committee meeting will be on June 26. We will be using the three tents from the Farmer Market this year since TAF said they would be charging us this year for use of their tents.
- e. -submitted by Pennie Ainsworth, Assistant Superintendent

3. Chris Foley, Recreation Director's Report:

- a. Four Summer sports camps were completed. Summer sport camps are offered by Varsity Coaches at the West Lafayette School Corp. facilities.
- b. 75 Girls participated in Coach Jane Schott's girls' basketball camp.
- c. 105 Boys registered for Coach Dave Wood's basketball week long camp. Both week long basketball camps were offered June 1-5
- d. 35 girls enrolled in Coach Chad Marshall's volleyball camp.
- e. Thanks to W.L. Athletic Director Brock Touloukian for working with the coaches to get the camps scheduled in the High School gym.
- f. The Tennis program is underway. The tennis program coordinator is Tim Wright, the WL Varsity Tennis coach. Tennis lessons are offered at both the West Lafayette Varsity Courts at Cumberland School and the Happy Hollow Courts.
- g. The Municipal Pool opened on May 23 for the Memorial day weekend. The pool was open for evening swim through the week and opened for the season on Friday, May 29. The delayed opening was due the extended school calendar.
- h. The Swim lesson program began on June 1. Four – two week sessions are offered at the Municipal Pool. The swim lesson program continues to be a very popular program. Many of the first to levels have filled for many of the sessions.
- i. Diving lessons are also offered at the Municipal Pool. The Diving program also offers four –two week sessions.
- j. The Boilermaker Aquatics is using the pool in the early morning for team practice.
- k. An automatic Pool vacuum has been purchased. The new robotic vacuum is able to systematically clean the pool after hours. This eliminates the need for staff to hand vacuum the pool.
- l. The two Playground programs at Cumberland School and the Burtsfield gym are underway. The Cumberland site's enrollment is down for the first year. It has been suggested that the ongoing construction of Cumberland Road might be the cause of the lower enrollment. The School maintenance staff has been very helpful allowing the program in the school facilities.

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4. Jon Munn, Parks Director Report:

- a. Inspection reports of our playgrounds and trails have been completed and filed.
- b. Spent time with members of maintenance staff – getting to know each of them, and their skills.
- c. Working towards developing a vehicle preventative maintenance routine, and encouraging staff to take better care of vehicles.
- d. Working with staff to improve restroom cleaning procedures & mowing routines.

5. Bess Witcoskey, Morton Center Director:

- a. The WL Health Promotions Committee kicked off a walking program on Friday, June 12th for city employees that utilizes our trails and the Strolling Series.
- b. The Summer Stroll Series continues this month at Tapawingo Park June 17th at 5:30p. We will be “Strolling with the Mayor”! Mayor Dennis will be there to chat about West Lafayette events.
- c. The previous stroll on May 20th took place even though it was 50 degrees and drizzling. We had 8 people in attendance.
- d. Summer Camps at Morton started June 8th and attendance is very good. A variety of camps will run through the first week of August.
- e. In July:
 - a. The Summer Stroll Series heads out to the Lilly Nature Center and Celery Bog on July 15th at 5:30pm. This will be our “Nature Stroll” with Tippecanoe County Naturalist Mary Cutler.

6. Dan Dunten, Stewardship Director’s Report

- a. **West Lafayette Farmers Market** – Assisted with two events. One with the Tree Friends to educate the public about the Emerald Ash Borer. The other was with Bess Witcosky to share information about the Parks & Recreation Department.
- b. **Landscaping / Beautification** – Working with the crew, we planted 16 large flower pots around the city, planted 6 trees near the Farmers Market area, removed 3 large tree stumps near the Tapawingo Park fountain, and planted 50 additional flowers in the wildflower garden near the Nature Center. The guys also did a lot of mulching, weeding, string trimming, spraying and general clean-up.
- c. **Maintenance Work** – The crew did an excellent job working on the following: Happy Hollow Park Shelters 3 &4, swimming pool, Sonya Margerum Fountain, playground surfacing (mulch) added and equipment repaired, and a lot of mowing.
- d. **Wednesdays In The Wild Program Planning** – The steering committee met to plan these weekly environmental education programs for July through the first week of December. We will be contacting speakers and making the necessary arrangements for their programs and publicity.
- e. **Working With Millennial Volunteers** – Attended a workshop that covered ways to engage this group of potential volunteers. These are individuals born in the early 1980’s – early 2000’s and statistics show that approximately 65% of them volunteer for some type of non-profit organization.
- f. **RIP Squad Report** – These Removal of Invasive Plants (RIP) Squad volunteers contributed over 200 hours this spring towards invasive plant control in the West Lafayette and Tippecanoe County parks (over 100 hours to each park system). This spring they had 18 volunteers from the community, and at least 25 additional volunteers from Purdue service organizations.

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7. Janet Fawley, Park Superintendent's Report:

- a. The intersection of Happy Hollow Road and River Road are closed throughout the remainder of the summer. Follow the link to view the project elements according to their timeline.
http://www.westlafayette.in.gov/egov/docs/1428006122_148010.pdf
- b. The trail from Morehouse Road to Trailhead Park on Kalberer Rd is now closed for the next month or so.
- c. Cattail Trail Extension (from WalMart to Yeager) expects to be completed by end of June. Trail dedication TBD.
- d. Joe Payne resigned from WL Parks & Recreation Foundation Board on June 9. Janet Fawley was elected to replace him.
- e. Pickleball has begun at Riverside Skating Rink. Playing in the morning and evening. No official schedule.
- f. WREC meeting was held on 5/28; land purchases continue; RiverFest planning continues.
- g. Pool was inspected & passed by County Health Department;
- h. Met w/ Purdue staff re: language on use agreements for students; need Parks Board attorney to review.

8. Larger Projects to be completed this year

- a. Cumberland Barn siding (RDC funds)
- b. Pool leak(NR Capital Pool Fund)
- c. Riverside Ice Skating Rink (CCD R/M services)
- d. HH Maintenance Building-Modine Heaters(2) (CCD fund)
- e. Tractor repair (CCD)
- f. Morton Center Mirrors for Rms 202 & 206 (NRO Fund)
- g. Morton Center Parking Lot to be resealed / striped & Basketball courts to be resealed lines(CCD funds)
- h. ADA Works @ Tapawingo (RDC Funds)
- i. Playground Safety Surfacing at all playgrounds(CCD Funds)
- j. Happy Hollow Ravine Trail (RDC Funds)
- k. Celery Bog Nature Area Sign/Public Art (RDC)
- l. Tapawingo Park Public Art