

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER, 2015

ADMINISTRATION

The Park District will host a community Open House at Mary Drew School on Wednesday, September 23rd. The event will highlight primary programming, BAS, Dance, and cheerleading that have benefitted from access to this new opportunity. It is hoped Commissioners will be able to attend. Board Members from Summit Hill School District 161 will also be in attendance. The Park District will provide hors d'oeuvres.

I have been in contact with Dr. Tingley, Superintendent of LWCHS District 210 regarding future use of Lincoln-Way North. I hope to be able to provide an update on this issue at Thursday's meeting.

Per previous correspondence, we elected to walk away from participation in the school lunch program. I believe it to be a good opportunity, but it requires more time to properly develop. Staff will develop the necessary tools to participate in this program next year.

We may have the audit for distribution at the September meeting. I have invited John Williams, CPA from the firm of Hearne and Associates, to provide an audit report at the October Board Meeting.

I hope to announce receipt of our building permit for garage construction at Thursday's meeting. It is amazing the complexity of requirements that are necessary to build a small facility.

Plans are underway for the boardwalk extension at Island Prairie Park. Dennis Persic, engineer, former Board Member, and friend of the District has provided tremendous support in planning and development of this project.

The memorial, constructed at Lincoln-Way North Park is nearing completion. Trees included in the memorial will be planted in late fall.

I have developed a potential project listing for Board review that will be distributed during Thursday's meeting.

Staff have worked cooperatively, developing a grant application that was submitted to our insurance carrier, PDRMA. I have provided our application for Board review.

The ADA transition plan is nearing completion. This 1+ year project, requiring grading, identified conditions and prioritizes a repair schedule.

MAINTENANCE

Staff worked with Lincoln-Way North on the details necessary for a successful homecoming parade.

Fall projects include turf aeration, overseeding, and herbicide application, and

Substantial progress was made to complete herbicide applications throughout the District.

Crack sealing and sealcoating has been completed to over 75% of all Park District paths.

Painting has been completed at the Community Center's Community Room, Board Room, and Board Room kitchen.

RECREATION

Pam Kohlbacher, Director of Early Childhood Programming, has developed a new curriculum for the ELC preschool program, implementing a proper balance between introducing children to more academic content, while still emphasizing the importance of socialization and play. Pam Kohlbacher and staff did an exceptional job transitioning to this improved format, and the teachers and aides are excited about their newly expanded classroom responsibilities. The ELC preschool preview days were held on September 10th and 11th, with classes beginning on September 14th and 15th for the 3 and 4 year old students. Staff will be evaluating this opportunity, and bringing potential changes before the Board prior to publication of the winter/spring brochure.

Based on information provided during the March 2015 Park Board Workshop, Colleen Hassell, park district employee, has been focusing on posting additional program and facility information on the park district's Facebook page. She recently highlighted both the preview days and start of preschool, and has received positive feedback from our residents.

BAS transitioned to the new Mary Drew facility, and residents are benefiting from this expanded cooperative effort with Summit Hill School District. Park recreation staff should be commended for all the effort it required to move substantial materials and to set up in this new location.

The fitness challenge for BAS participants, developed by the Park District's Wellness Committee, is underway, and a new staff fitness program will begin on Monday, September 21st.

Enrollment in the popular Dance Program has increased by 35+ students, with 300+ enrolled in the fall sessions.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Keypad entry locks have been installed throughout the District. We have had problems requiring lock replacement with three of the 25+ locks that were installed. They have been replaced, and we continue to monitor the situation. The transition away from keys to the new fob system will be implemented at the Community Center and other remote locations in the coming months.

SPECIAL RECREATION

SSSRA staff have toured Mary Drew, and are considering program placement in the coming months.

FINANCE AND PLANNING

I have contacted Chapman and Cutler to schedule mini bond authorization for October. This is the annual permitted sale of \$106,000 of alternate bonds.

The second primary tax distribution has been received from Will County.

We were notified by the Illinois Treasurer's Pool that transaction fees and various charges will be added to their accounts. Never before have costs been addressed, and I am exploring Park District options.

GOLF COURSE

Kelly VanHyning, Manager of Square Links Golf Course, has attended a Boy Scouts meeting and LWN Athletic Boosters meetings, providing information about the inaugural Oktoberfest, to be held at Square Links on October 10th. The LWN Athletic Boosters have offered to sell tickets during the September 25th Homecoming game.

Cart path repairs are underway, and should be completed by Friday, September 18th.

The high school season is winding down, and matches will wrap up in approximately two weeks.

Fall Youth Lessons began on Sunday, September 13th, and enrollment has increased over previous years, with fifteen registered for this offering.

The course has transitioned to fall hours, and will adjust opening and closing times over through the end of the golf season.

Respectfully submitted:

Jim Randall

Executive Director