

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **APRIL, 2013**

I have provided a budget summary and final draft of the 2013/2014 budget for Board approval.

Congratulations to all incumbent candidates elected during the April 9<sup>th</sup> Consolidated Election. Special recognition goes to Ken Blackburn, the longest serving Commissioner in the history of the district. Ken was initially elected in 1989, and has volunteered countless hours as an active member of the Park Board for 24 years.

The Will County Clerk's Office will canvass election results 21 days after the April 9<sup>th</sup> election. Unofficial results are available on the county's website, at [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com), and the official results will be available on their site beginning Tuesday, April 30, 2013.

I am providing a draft of a drug and alcohol policy for initial Board review. We have discussed this action, and I would request Board input on the matter prior to implementation. When finalized, a revised copy of the Personnel Handbook will be presented for consideration at a future Board Meeting.

The estimated April 30<sup>th</sup> fund balance is projected to be \$195,000. Past estimates were higher, but limited golf revenue resulting from inclement weather conditions has lowered expectations. Sunshine and 60° temperatures could put us back on track.

The new Gold Medal website link and Board site are up and available. Staff worked diligently to provide text and gather photographs, and we are excited about these new opportunities.

I am very proud of our Gold Medal application, summarizing many positive actions, programs and facilities provided by the district. The NRPA will notify finalists in May, and the Gold Medal will be awarded in Houston this fall during the annual Congress.

### **RECREATION**

Summer registration has been light, but we anticipate that better weather will increase program enrollment.

Final preparations are underway for the annual recital on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Lincoln-Way North Performing Arts Center. Over 250 dancers will take part in two performances, attended by 1,600+ family and friends.

F.A.N. had a record year of participation. The inclement weather boosted daily attendance, doubling participation over May of 2012.

### **MAINTENANCE**

Basic seasonal park preparations have been completed. We had hoped to be further along on both field and turf maintenance, but weather has limited progress in these areas.

The park district implemented an advanced training program. Jeff Mecher, Julie Arvia, and I will individually review qualifications of all park district maintenance employees in all categories of equipment operation. This measure will help to ensure safe operation by assigning staff to operate equipment when meeting necessary criteria. Senior staff members will have advanced training to ensure they are adept at operating technically advanced equipment.

## **BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL AREAS**

Julie Arvia and her staff started a very successful spring burn program. Additional burns are scheduled for late April.

The Annual Earth Day Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. This popular free event attracts a strong turn-out, and Commissioners are welcome to attend.

## **GOLF COURSE**

We need sunshine!

Ray Schmitz and staff have the course in great shape, and a new cart area was installed. I would request approval to install an automatic gate, similar to the maintenance yard gate, at an estimated cost of \$7,000. This improvement provides increased security and enables all staff to open and close the gate. The manual gate is larger and requires physical strength to operate.

The changes in kitchen staff and menu are all positive. Please take the time to stop by; I am confident that you will be impressed with the changes at A La Cart.

## **PROJECTS**

- New sod and irrigation placement at Union Creek #5 -\$3,500
- Operable power gate at golf course -\$7,000

I am soliciting proposals for asphalt and tennis court repairs at Hunter Prairie Park, and office renovation at the Community Center.

Additional information will be forwarded as it becomes available.

Respectfully submitted:  
Jim Randall