

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
AUGUST, 2018

ADMINISTRATION

The most exciting news is that after more than seven years of submitting an application, rejection, submitting a second application, approval, delay in funding, and finally receiving preliminary funding, the Community Park Redevelopment, an OSLAD grant project, is nearly complete. The final grant payout request has been audited, "As Built" drawings were completed, and all was submitted to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, requesting the final remittance of \$99,500, the balance of the grant award.

Community Park is truly unique, providing multiple opportunities for adults and children. The facility includes community gardens and emphasizes fitness and lifetime sports with pickle ball and bocce ball courts, bag toss, horseshoe pits, and fishing. All will enjoy this old park's new renovations.

I am planning to schedule the October meeting of the Park Board at Community Park, inviting supportive legislators, Frankfort Lions Club, and the Court Homes of Frankfort Townhome Association Board that was exceptionally patient and tremendously supportive of our efforts to redevelop Community Park. Arrangements can be finalized at the August and September Board Meetings.

Please note; the August meeting will be held at the Square Links Golf Course clubhouse. As has become our custom, staff members, John Keenan, Superintendent of Recreation, and Nicolette Jerik, Recreation Supervisor, will provide annual reports. In November, Audrey Marcquenski, Director, will represent the administrative staff in my absence.

Frankfort Square Baseball League, Wildcats Football, and the Park District-sponsored Boy Scout Troop #237 representatives are invited to the August meeting. These groups are included in the beverage sale sharing program that was implemented in 2017. Dollars are being tabulated, and checks will be issued to these organizations during Thursday's meeting.

I cannot provide a brief summary of all the completed projects, but have listed the following bullet points:

- Paving Improvements
 1. Brookside Glen paths
 2. Woodlawn Park path
 3. Community Park path
 4. Community Park parking lot
 5. Community Center parking lot
- Indian Boundary South Park boardwalk
- Community Park
 1. Elevated garden/fences/key fob locks
 2. Water tower and municipal water tap
 3. Water fountain/bottle filler/pet bowl
 4. Bag toss competition area
 5. Bocce ball competition area
 6. Horseshoe competition area
 7. Two pickle ball courts
 8. Tree planting
 9. Solar lights
 10. Green roof added to picnic shelter
 11. Benches and picnic tables
 12. Site restoration
 13. Rock outcropping
 14. Interpretive signage
 15. Playground renovation
- Dance Studios – available for programming usage beginning in September
 1. Demolition of multiple brick walls
 2. Movement of utilities
 3. Floor received and scheduled for installation this week
 4. Dance mirrors – prior to September 1

I will provide an oral report of pending projects, scheduled to completed, and ongoing plans for next year at Thursday's meeting, and will also provide the working project summary.

Staff met with Jim Rock of Ancel Glink, attorney and specialist in Illinois government finance. This meeting was exceptionally beneficial to all in attendance. Mr. Rock's experience in recreation, and as a CPA and attorney, provides a unique opportunity to learn from a true expert.

MAINTENANCE

The season has provided some unique challenges. We continue to evaluate contracted service, and will complete a summary evaluation at the conclusion of the season and make recommendations.

RECREATION

John Keenan and Nicolette Jerik will update Board Members on the Recreation Department's many advancements.

A preschool open house took place on August 1, and was well-attended by participants and parents. The teachers, working with Pam Kohlbacher, are ready to go, providing a quality program that residents have come to expect. The program has a new energy, and I am excited to see the fresh ideas that new staff are bringing to the program.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Park District experienced a one day glitch when a server went down, and we were without computers for several hours. B Practical staff were on site and worked diligently to resolve a permanent correction.

SPECIAL RECREATION

LWSRA recently added two individuals to its recreation staff. Heather Specht, Superintendent of Recreation has been in the field of therapeutic recreation for 12 years, and is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, CTRS. Heather received her bachelor's degree in Therapeutic Recreation from Illinois State University, and her master's degree in business management at Lewis University. Makara Daniel Nong, Recreation Specialist Adapted, attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on a full athletic scholarship for wheelchair basketball where he received his bachelor's degree in recreation, sport, and tourism.

The FSPD hosted an LWSRA Park Party at Union Creek Park on July 30. In addition to LWSRA attendees, the park was alive with Wildcats cheerleaders and players, helping to meet the goal of making the event all inclusive. A DJ led fun activities, and popcorn and lemonade was served. The purpose behind the Park Party annual events is to increase awareness of LWSRA and the opportunities the agency provides. The event also reached 1,000 viewers on Facebook.

The Park District remitted the first two payments of its annual obligation of \$122,227.48 to LWSRA. The remaining payments will be rendered on October 1, 2018, and February 1, 2019.

FINANCE & PLANNING

I am asking for approval to remit \$111,613.52, the balance to repay Loan #1528-7. It is a goal of the successful March, 2018 referendum to use non-referendum budget dollars to lower the District's annual debt service. The intent is to payout another \$100,000 debt next year, and the balance of previous financings will expire within the next three years.

The audit is nearing completion, and I anticipate receipt of the final report by the October Board Meeting.

GOLF COURSE

Last November's tee renovations have required additional work and correction. Sod replaced seed, and we hope improvements will be available in the coming weeks.

The Park District is exploring other options for future improvements. I will update Board Members at the August meeting.

Tree work has been completed, but a day or two remains for final correction.

Play has been steady, but early bad weather has been hard to overcome. Matt Tillman, Athletic Supervisor, is taking it all in, and will be making recommendations for next year at the November Board Meeting.

OFFICE

Bonnie Roach, Office Manager, has worked on a variety of improvements, highlighted by the much-anticipated dance payment plan. Participants are able to register and securely provide credit card information that is used for recurring payments.

Office staff continue to cross-train to ensure coverages, as needed.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Staff continue to train, evaluate, and improve overall safety for employees and patrons. Monthly meetings are held to review all aspects of Park District operation.

WELLNESS

The second annual employee health assessment was completed on August 7. Ten staff members participated in this year's opportunity.

Audrey Marcquenski is working with Jarrod Scheunemann to develop a community-wide wellness survey.

Respectfully submitted:

Jim Randall

Executive Director