

Town of Munster
Department of Parks and Recreation
Board Report April 19, 2016

DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATION

It has only been two weeks, but the Billy Casper Golf transition is going well at this time. Current employees Matt Meneghetti has accepted the position of Head Golf Professional and Hilario Huerta has accepted the position of Golf Mechanic. Dan Augdahl was hired as the new Superintendent of Golf. He was formerly employed with Billy Casper Golf before rejoining the company. Most recently, he was the Superintendent of Golf at the Lansing Country Club. Interviews for a General Manager are underway now. An announcement should be made in the next couple of weeks.

The Director of Parks and Recreation is working with Centennial to provide Dark Lord parking at both Centennial parking lots and at the Munster Business Complex. The opportunity-minded Billy Casper Golf is already considering ways to increase revenue. If the weather cooperates, they would like to grill and sell hamburgers and hot dogs at all three lots. They are also considering transporting attendees via golf carts from the south lot to the corner of Calumet and Superior for a fee.

New under Billy Casper Golf's Leadership, Centennial will be offering a Mother's Day Brunch. The brunch fee will be \$24.95 adults/\$12.95 kids/ free for kids 4 and under and will feature an omelet station, a carving station and hot and cold buffets. Advertisements are starting now.

The View Restaurant will soon have new menu and hours. The menu will feature new items and a brand new design. Unfortunately, some of the existing items will undergo a slight price increase at the same time. The menu and prices haven't been changed in 4 years but the cost of the food increases 8% - 10% annually. Thus, the View's profit margin for food has decreased annually.

The Director of Parks and Recreation has negotiated with Fetching Market personnel to bring a Fetching Market to Centennial Park in July. Centennial will receive a rental fee as well as proceeds from operating a beer garden.

The department is starting to reap the benefits of the new shirt bid process that was recently approved for the entire year. Roselynn Fashion's first task of the year was a big one. They delivered all soccer shirts correctly and on time. Not only was the price much lower, the shirt colors were brighter and the shirt designs were nicer than in the past. Staff has heard numerous positive comments from the coaches and the parents. Roselynn Fashion also redesigned a new logo for the car show shirts.

The Community Park Obelisk has been removed by Rogan Granite. As soon as the limestone arrives, the new obelisk will be erected at Town Hall. The Parks Department is currently removing the shrubs and bricks that were around the obelisk.

The Community Park Fireman's Tribute work is almost ready to begin. Staff is waiting on some final pricing and other details before the work starts.

All four soccer leagues that operate in Munster parks have begun. Staff have been in contact with representatives to ensure that their field and schedule needs are met.

Opening Day for Munster Little League is scheduled for April 16. The fields and concession stands are ready. The opening days of the other leagues start in a couple of weeks.

PARKS

Park staff has again repaired benches in Circle Park. All three park benches were vandalized.

Water in all of the community Park Washrooms was turned on. All restrooms were cleaned and stocked with necessities.

Park staff repaired the tampon machine in Community Park's west restroom. Vandalism pried the front door open and removed an undetermined amount of money, pads and tubes.

Staff is now cleaning up St. Tom's property after the Obelisk was removed. All bushes and landscape blocks are currently being removed.

All press box building were cleaned by staff. This was done as opening Little League, Babe Ruth and softball seasons are approaching.

Staff is changing all Community Park restroom soap dispensers. Some of the automatic dispensers have been broken.

Park Staff has cleaned up landscaping flower beds in all the parks. Leaves and other debris have been raked.

Staff is currently replacing 2 bike racks. Grove Park and Orchard Park racks were damaged.

A new item this year is baby changing stations in each of the 10 restrooms in Community Park. All changing stations match the ones that are existing in the pool restrooms.

Staff has moved soccer goals and striped soccer fields. Goals were moved at Grove, West Lakes, Stewart and White Oak. A total of 9 soccer fields are striped each Friday by park staff.

Park maintenance staff assisted recreation staff in Easter egg hunt. Park staff set up 36 barricades and cleaned out the Lion's Shelter in Community Park.

RECREATION

In preparation for the summer season, the recreation staff has been busy conducting interviews for a new Recreation Supervisor, an intern, Summer Enrichment teachers, program instructors, lifeguards and pool assistant managers. Danielle Volk has been hired as the new Recreation Supervisor and will begin work on May 2. Scott Gray has been hired as the Summer Intern. Ms. Volk graduated from Lewis University and has been working summers at Homewood Flossmoor Park District for 8 years. She has a strong

aquatics background. Mr. Gray is pursuing a degree in Recreation Administration at Eastern Illinois University and has worked for Downers Grove, Wheaton and Channahon Park Districts.

The sponsorship drive has seen new partners, including \$5,400 from Franklin Pest Solutions. They are sponsoring 3 Movies in the Park as well as the music for one of the Centennial Park Music in the Park nights and the music at the Sunday Market every other Sunday.

Michael Kobe, award winning photographer and member of the Calumet Region Photography Club, led a successful class on Digital Photography. 7 students became better photographers using their digital cameras. The 3-part Spring Gardening Series began with a discussion on Rain Barrels & Rain Gardens. There were 10 in attendance.

The Summer Camp 2016 incentive with 2015 prices was successful. Thirty-six children registered with nine of those taking advantage of the 10-week incentive. The winners of the top three incentives include: Stephen Glombicki - winner of the 4-person pool pass; Ellie Angelich - winner of the 5-person pool coupon book; Marley Underwood - winner of the \$50 class credit.

A full motorcoach of 55 people traveled to Chicago for the Flower & Garden Show at Navy Pier or the Shedd Aquarium. Combining trips on one bus allowed the trip to run and travelers to choose from 2 options. Also, 31 travelers went to South Bend and enjoyed Tippecanoe Place, the South Bend Chocolate Factory, and Anderson Winery. 49 traveled to Drury Lane Theater for lunch and “Bye Bye Birdie.” Upcoming travel includes a trip to Chicago to see “Irving Berlin at the Royal George” and lunch at Marcello’s.

Currently 308 people, aged 50+, have become new Keen-Agers or renewed their memberships for 2016. Memberships are being accepted every day. Programs held since the last report included Bingo! Bingo! and Brain Games. Bingo! Bingo! was presented by Oak Street Health and Brain Games was facilitated by Melanie Whitfield of Arden Courts. Both of these organizations paid the brochure ad fee and offered a free program for our Keen-Agers. There were 48 and 41 in attendance respectively.

11 rentals are scheduled at the Social Center the month of April. This does not include the three continuous groups that rent the Social Center on a regular basis. There are 7 rentals scheduled at the Social Center for May so far.

SOCIAL CENTER HERITAGE PARK

Facility	2016 to-date	2015
Social Center	65	115
Heritage Park	6	9

FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF COMPLETED PROGRAMS

PROGRAM	R	NR	REVENUE	EXPENSE	VARIANCE + OR (-)
"Bye, Bye Birdie" at Drury Lane	10	36	\$ 4,031.00	\$ 3,054.54	\$ 976.46
Basketball Basics	10	2	\$ 500.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 475.00
Brain Games*	21	20	\$ 250.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 225.00
CPR Certification	6	0	\$ 350.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Digital Photography	6	1	\$ 263.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 113.00
Dribble, Kick and Goal	10	2	\$ 460.00	\$ 215.17	\$ 244.83
Egg Hunts	289	0	\$ 1,412.00	\$ 1,190.49	\$ 221.51
Estate Planning w/ Meghann LaBadie*	19	17	\$ 250.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 225.00
Mother Daughter Spa	34	17	\$ 850.00	\$ 28.95	\$ 821.05
Shedd Aquarium/Flower & Garden	17	38	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,630.00	\$ 970.00
Swim Lessons + Underwater Egg Hunt	49	16	\$ 3,325.00	\$ 977.47	\$ 2,347.53
T-Ball 101	8	1	\$ 370.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 345.00
Tippecanoe, Chocolates & Wine, Too!	9	22	\$ 273.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 248.00
Volleyball/Basketball Program	11	4	\$ 236.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 211.00
Wado-Ki Karate	24	2	\$ 400.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 375.00
Yoga and Breathing	22	2	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 802.75	\$ 432.25
TOTAL	545	180	\$ 16,805.00	\$ 8,374.37	\$ 8,380.63

*Brochure Ad

CENTENNIAL PARK

Golf Course

The Golf Shop had another great month of revenue, with the range and golf course opening in early March. Here is a breakdown of the monthly revenue:

<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Jan - \$7,087	Jan - \$3,430
Feb - \$7,900	Feb - \$7,606
March - \$21,035	March - \$33,095

The Golf Shop has been receiving merchandise weekly. All merchandise is on display and the golfers really like what is for sale this season. The shop did a total of \$723.31 in sales. The breakdown follows:

Golf Balls - \$183.18
Headwear - \$120.54
Clothing - \$234.57
Misc. (Tees, Bags, Gloves) - \$185.02

The driving range opened on March 10th. When the weather was nice the golfers came out in numbers. The range took in \$6,480.

- Tokens purchased in Golf Shop - \$1280
- Debit Key/Memberships - \$4025
- Cash Dispense (machine) - \$1,175

The Golf Shop is making a final push for memberships which are doing very well. The shop is promoting our four in house leagues very aggressively. The number of players is up from last year.

Grounds

Staff continues to do the daily cleaning routine. Park traffic has increased as the weather warms.

Staff has started working on the tasks completed every spring in preparation for the season. All restrooms and drinking fountains have been turned on throughout the park.

All concrete areas will be pressure washed and sanitized as needed including the bathrooms.

Staff will check for damage to trees and shrubs from winter weather, and lists will be made for repair and replacement. Regular monitoring will begin for pest and disease problems.

Both gardens will be inspected for heaving; fencing will be realigned and repaired as needed. Overgrowth will be cut back and planting will take place towards the end of April or the beginning of May. Perennial gardens will be planted after the threat of frost is gone. Bed clean-up will be performed in all locations prior to any required division of perennials. Planting areas will be mulched.

The irrigation system will be started up, and repairs will be made due to weather or damage. There may be some issues due to the construction at the north end of the park.

The South parking lot drain will be cleaned out to remove debris accumulated over winter. Drains throughout the park will be cleaned out, including the dog park and garden areas.

For several years now the Cleveland Pear trees around the clubhouse have been infected with Fire Blight disease. All trees were treated professionally by injection and continuous pruning. Inspection and the same treatment will be scheduled again this year; this should help minimize further damage and spreading.