



Presented September 5, 2017

Town Council Report for August 2016 Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:

Park Programming

- *Environmental Programming:* Our Park Naturalist, Mindy Murdock, had 989 in total attendance in programs throughout the parks and at the Zion Nature Center for the past month. Two Hundred and twelve of those were self-directed drop-in visitors to our Nature Center (i.e. not related to a particular program). Another 233 of the nearly 1000 listed above were from our cooperative programming venture with the Street/Stormwater Department, the Zionsville CreekFest.
- *Zionsville Parks Golf Course (ZGC):* The gross revenues for August 2017 were our second lowest for this month at ~\$37,647. Over our 9 full seasons of operation, ~\$48,130 in 2009 was our highest for this month. 2016 was our lowest season for this month at ~\$30,249. Our average for this month over those 9 full seasons of operation has been ~\$41,838.

Other Highlighted Parks Matters

- The several rounds of severe weather have been playing havoc with the urban forest across our Town and its parks. In addition to the 4 trees and numerous smaller limbs last month.... We've had 3 more trees and several, large hanging limbs to clear this month.
- We are still waiting on the completed fabrication on the metal stairs for Trail SP-1 at Starkey Park. Even though this was ordered back in the spring, we are told this specialty item is still 4 weeks from completion.
- The 5-Year Master Plan process for the entire Park System will be getting underway this fall. This will chart the public's desires, along with opportunities for elected officials input, and all merged with professional park planner's feasibility knowledge to plot the next 5 years or so of Park Department efforts. Numerous input opportunities will abound in this 6-month long process. Stay tuned!
- We've had several very positive articles of media coverage this last month. They ranged the gamut from our Park Naturalist being interviewed about the Tail on the Trail program, through samples of our cooperative CreekFest event, and into an interview about our plans to expand the Big-4 Rail Trail southward 9and eventually northward as well).