



Presented October 7, 2013

Town Council Report for September 2013 Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:

Zionsville Parks Golf Course (ZGC)

- For the third month in row, this past month was our second highest reported gross operating profits we've generated for the month at ~\$30,329. This was less than \$60 dollars off this same month's numbers back in our best September in 2009. When looking at 2010-2012, the month of September averaged out to be ~\$26,302 in gross operating revenues so this year would be about \$4,000 up from that level.

Events/Activities in the Parks

- The first annual Zionsville Eagle Creek Cleanup (Sept 14th) went very well. This was a cooperative venture between the Park and Street and Stormwater Department and was catalyzed by local angler, Todd Settle. Over 40 members of various citizens groups responded and vigorously worked in the stream for two hours. About a mile of stream had been pre-surveyed between Elm Street Green and Creekside Parks. All of the adjacent property owners gave permission for access and over 2600 pounds of metal debris were removed. Most of it appeared to have been lying in place for a decade or more. This will likely become a yearly or every other year event as long as the volunteers are supportive. Future locations will depend on existing conditions, any flooding issues, availability of, and permission to, access, etc.
- The weekend after the stream cleanup, St. Vincent's held their annual Cancer Walk (their second one since moving to Zionsville). Starting in Lions Park, the route passes through and uses our Rail Trail and many other parks as rest stops, food, rest, bathroom stops, etc. They reported 947 participants that day, which was up a significant amount than previously.
- And on the last weekend in September, the Wall Group had a 5K Run/Walk starting and finishing at Jennings Park and utilizing the Rail Trail for its routing.

Heritage Trail Park (HTP)

- The preliminary punch-list has been prepared and is in the hands of the Contractor. Various related payment portions are being held until their components completion.
- The Park Board decided that once the contractor completes the work and relinquishes the site, we will allow the park to have a soft opening and public access will be granted. The plan is for larger miscellaneous site amenities like picnic tables to be stored over the winter so as to preserve their lifespan longer and will be placed in the Spring in time for the ribbon cutting ceremony.
- At the request of the equipment manufacturer. Our playground equipment at this park was the site of a photo shoot with about 15 children (waivers and releases protecting the Town were signed). We are told it will be a full page spread in their 2014 playground equipment catalog and will be distributed internationally.

Other Highlighted Matters

- It seems like Zionsville and its Park System have been garnering a fair amount of good will and good press lately. In addition to the above mentioned photo shoot and nice articles and thank

you's about the Stream Cleanup and the St V's Walk, there was a very nice IJB Trail article that discussed Trails throughout the North Indianapolis area.

- Additionally the DNR distributed a press release about the Lake and River Enhancement Grant we had been awarded for \$32,000. Between our mentions of that and the DNR's document, the media developed a very positive article about the opportunity.
- The Eagle Scout Boardwalk project on the Starkey Boardwalk on Trail SP-1 has been completed and is very nice. Because we were working on this project ourselves in house we had already purchased the materials (something not usually done for an Eagle Scout project). They provided the labor to install.
- The Eagle Scout project at Turkey Foot Park is nearing completion, but the scout still needs to finish a few items. We also have a third Eagle Scout project in the offing at Elm Street Green, but it is still in the planning stages.