

April 5, 2010
Town Council Report: March, 2010
Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:

Acquisition Update

- The Goodwin Property Environmental Assessment is complete and the Town Attorney did not report the existence of concerning issues. According to the Attorney's timetable, title search should be completed very soon. If the re-appropriation scheduled for the Town Council's April meeting goes through, the park monies from the Non-Reverting Capital Fund will be ready for use as the Park's share in the acquisition process. In other efforts related to this property the Park Board has passed a Memorandum of Understanding for use on this property between the Fire Dept and the Park Dept. This MoU is scheduled for inclusion on the April Safety Board Agenda.

Park Improvement/Construction Projects Updates

- The Turkey Foot Park has started with the required tree clearing. This trail project must be virtually entirely located within the wooded floodplain that comprises the entirety of the park. Considerable effort was expended to route the trail around significant trees and jurisdictional wetlands. The State requires that impacted trees of a certain size be mitigated at a multiplier effect. So for the few trees of this protected size class we were forced to remove, we will be planting several time more in replacement stock. Because of common restrictions in the State's Floodway Permits no clearing activities or construction in the water can occur now until June. The culvert across the Cox Creek Tributary was ordered by the contractor, Calumet Civil Construction, as soon as the permit was released. Each box culvert of this size is constructed specifically for each project and ours should be delivered in mid-May. Construction activities will pick up again in late May and early June. Completion timeline is still on schedule for early fall.
- Elm Street Green Park's Construction in a Floodway Permit has been released and will be effective the week of April 5th. R.L. Turner, the successful bidder on the project, will be initiating mobilization and basic site surveying that same week with construction to really gear up within the next two weeks following. Contractor's timeline is to be complete by the end of October of this year.
- The Creekside Nature Park bank stabilization project is complete. This was constructed faster than the projected schedule and somewhat under original budget. A short news release was prepared, placed on the Town Web Site, and by the time you read this should be submitted to the local paper.

Other Highlighted Matters

- Our Nature Center's annual big event Z'GreenFest will be held again this year on April 18th from 1 to 4pm. The location has been shifted this year to behind Town Hall with the event moving into Town Hall in the case of rain. Everyone is encouraged to attend this fun and educational event.
- As of the preparation of this report, all but 5 of the 50 garden plot locations have been rented. Due to the delay on the Construction Permitting release on Elm Street Green project, the garden plots will be at the Goodwin Property. Plans are in place to gravel a small parking area in addition to the same soil tillage practices and water provision system we provide each year.
- The Zionsville Parks Golf Course officially opened the week of March 8th but cold temperatures and weather caused us to close 8 days in March (compared to 3 in March of 2009). In spite of that March 2010 gross receipts are still within a few thousand of last year's March numbers. Hopefully this marks an auspicious beginning for this year's golf season.