

June 7, 2010
Town Council Report: May, 2010
Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:

Acquisition Update

- The Swiggett Parcel acquisition was completed on June 2nd. This public safety and park user access point has long been a goal of the Town many thanks to all those involved past and present. As a part of the negotiated arrangement the property owner immediately to the south has the right to close the property for a defined period of time. After which the Park Board will be free to construct the paved access linkage.

Park Improvement/Construction Projects Updates

- Elm Street Green Park's development is proceeding although recent rains have slowed the pace somewhat. Based on our discussions with them, the contractor has lengthened their workdays and will work some Saturdays to get back on schedule.
- The Park Staff worked diligently in addition to their other tasks to prepare a \$200,000 grant request for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). These highly sought after non-tax funds will, if we are awarded the grant, be targeted towards jumpstarting the development of the Goodwin Property as this site afforded us the most points in the rating formula in what promises to be a most competitive year. A well-attended public input meeting assisted us in developing the conceptual features of the park site.

Other Highlighted Matters

- Our own Zion Nature Center's highly successful daycamps will be starting June 7-11 with separate sessions both in the morning and afternoon. And then the same schedule again the week of June 21-25. Plus a separate, specialized camp the week of June 28th to July 2nd All sessions have been full since before mid April. The park Naturalist and her part-time staff work extremely hard to provide this highlight of the summer.
- The cooperative venture with the Dwight Freeney Football Camp organization will be hosted by us at our Mulberry Fields Park on June 8th and 9th, from 1 to 4 pm. This fee based program is open to children of ages 7-14 and their parents may want to sneak in to get some Colts autographs as well.
- On June 19th, Maplelawn Farmstead, Inc. who are energetic partners with the Parks Department by protecting and programming the park's farm structures and homestead in the northwest corner of Mulberry Fields Park, will be hosting an exciting day-long event celebrating the 175th birthday of the site. This will be free to the entire community and all are encouraged to attend.
- And on June 28th and 29th, our friends at Maplelawn Farmstead will be hosting an archeological two day event complete with a "seeded" dig site for the youngsters. All are encouraged to come by and then stop by the splash park at the other corner of Mulberry Fields Park to cool off.
- The Zionsville Park's Golf Course gross profit numbers for April were \$26,437.61 (up about \$10,000 from the same month in the previous year).
- The Zionsville Park's Golf Course gross profit numbers for May were \$37,846.41 (up over \$11,000 from the previous month but down slightly at about \$2500 from same month in the previous year).
- The Memorial Day Weekend marks the traditional kick-off of summer throughout the State's park departments and our splash pad at Mulberry Fields was up and running. From my check in visits over the holiday weekend it was well received.