



Presented December 2, 2013

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

Zionsville Parks Golf Course (ZGC)

- November closes our traditional season of play for this much enjoyed Zionsville facility. Unfortunately, weather forced our staff to make the difficult decision to close the course a total of 15 days in the month of November. As one might imagine our course staff talks with other course managers, greens-keepers, and golf course pros across the state. Many of them were proclaiming this as the worst November of play they can remember. In fact, our staff reports that Ted Bishop of "The Legends" course in Franklin, Indiana; stated that Oct 14th through Nov. 30th was the lowest golf play in his 22 years there. Fortunately since all of our Pro-shop Staff are hourly, we incur only a little cost for them this past month, with only a bit of preparation of supplies and getting the building and displays ready to close up for the season. We also have also been changing the oil in the carts and other similar season-ending machine maintenance. As the various maintenance procedures are completed on each cart, they are densely packed in a secured upland locations.
- Our gross operating profit for November amounted to ~\$2,167. Not surprisingly, this is down from the same monthly totals over the last three years. In each of the Novembers in 2010-2012, our gross operating profit was in the low \$6,000 range (yearly-ave. for the previous three yrs=\$6,190)
- Between now and the season opening in Mid-March 2014, there will still be a couple of maintenance staff in... overhauling as needed on equipment, sharpening and balancing the reel-cutters on the mowers, replacing a low boardwalk, working on a pernicious leak in in one of the irrigation lines, and other similar activities to ready the course for next Spring.

Events/Activities in the Parks

- With the Park Board's permission, the Village Residents Association has initiated their idea of donating, setting-up, and lighting a Holiday Tree in Lincoln Park. They also will be taking care of all maintenance for this and taking down just after New Year's. The simple lighting ceremony for this feature was the Sunday before the Town Council meeting.

Other Highlighted Matters

- In coordination with the technical staff from the DNR, the Park Board has selected the firm to provide the design work on the \$32,000 Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) grant. This 80%/20% grant while assist in the preparation of engineering documents and rough cost estimates for some stream bank stabilization sites within Starkey Park. Upon completion we will have the documents ready to submit in the next LARE-round for another 80/20 matching grant for construction to stabilize one or more reaches of the stream. While nothing is guaranteed, it would seem this is our best option to deal with this ongoing issue.
- On Saturday November 16th, an Eagle Scout implemented the planting project at Elm Street Green. 35 native trees, and some 400⁺ native grass plugs were installed by at least 20 volunteers over about 8 hrs. Because DNR recommended much of the pre-construction nonnatives and otherwise invasive species be removed, these plants are a great feature to a wonderful park.