



Presented July 5; 2016

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

Park Programming

- *Zionsville Parks Golf Course (ZGC):* Our monthly gross operating profit for the ZGC was over ~\$39,029. This compares to ~\$33,345 the previous month. When looking back over the last 8 seasons, our two highest historical numbers for this particular month each year stand at ~\$52,749 in 2012 and ~\$48,520 in 2013. Our lowest results for the same month throughout our years of operation had been in 2015 at ~\$33,492 (lowest) and ~\$37,750 for 2010 (second lowest).

Additional Programming, Partnerships, Other Events in the Parks, etc.:

- *Zionsville's Mayor's Monarch Challenge:* In addition to the Day camps, Environmental Education and other recreational programming we have going in our normal Park Department Summer... we have also started gearing up with new Monarch Butterfly Education programs to assist Mayor Haak in his goal for Zionsville becoming only the 5th Indiana Community to qualify for the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) recognition for assisting this beleaguered species. In fact the Park Department Superintendent received numerous compliments during a recent telephone evaluation of the past and current efforts. The Town was assured that many of the efforts they have done since 2009 (well before the NWF had ever thought of the program) will count towards the goal fulfillment. In fact, Parks were told that because of the Department's past efforts over the last 7 years...the Town will be able to easily qualify for the NWF's Leadership circle because they will be fulfilling the increased number of goals this higher achievement level requires (only the third community in the State to have this higher level award).

Other Highlighted Parks Matters

- *New Nature Center Update:* At the June Plan Commission meeting, the construction plan and specifications for the new Nature Center that is located on the north side of Heritage Trail Park were approved by unanimous votes. In attendance for the Park presentation were Superintendent Matt Dickey, Park Board Attorney Roger Burrus and members of the consultant team. During the brief presentation Plan Commission members were supportive and made several positive comments. From this point, the project moves into the formal bidding stage. It will be advertised in the paper twice, there will be a formal bid meeting for interested contractors, and submitted bids plan to be opened at 2PM on Tuesday, July 19th. Construction is expected to start this summer.
- *Zionsville Strategic Trails Implementation Plan (Z-STIP):* While not strictly a park department project and more of a Town-wide project, the Park Department did prepare the successful grant application and provide all of the local match money for this intensive trail planning effort. Park Staff also served on the large advisory committee along with Mayor Haak, various key trail users and influential people in the community, and several other Town Department staff. This half-year long process will soon lead to a final set of standards, plans, and cost estimates; portions of which that can eventually be incorporated into the Town's Transportation Plan to enable many trail improvements to be made for the community.