



Presented April 10, 2017  
**Town Council Report for March 2016**  
**Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:**

*2017's Major Park Planning Efforts with Town-wide Effects (Chronologically listed)*

- *Overly-Worman Park Conceptual Design Process:* The onsite assessments were mostly completed in the Jan-March time frame. In early March the intensive public input process began with the intensive three-day charrette process. There was robust public comment and participation during that three day process with 7 separate publicly accessible meetings taking place. Since those meetings, there have been several additional public comments flowing in as well. All of these comments are being considered for feasibility by the Consultant Team as they take the three rough concept scenarios presented at the end of the charrette process and meld those that are feasible into a single draft for presentation to the Park Board for their comment and consideration. The Consultant Team will also be developing conceptual cost opinions that can be used as rough guidelines for budgeting and our phasing considerations (if such are needed). It is anticipated final Park Board action on a conceptual plan will take place at the May Park Board meeting after which point it will be available for presentation to the Town Council. Note all of the Town Council members were specifically invited to participate as stakeholders and to also come to the general public input meeting. So some have contributed to the discussion and are certainly familiar with the process so far.

*Park Programming*

- *Environmental Programing:* Our Park Naturalist, Mindy Murdock, had 780 in total attendance in programs and at the Zion Nature Center for the past month. A little over half of those (421) were self-directed visitors to our Nature Center. And 293 of the remaining amount attended group programing such a programs for our school system (200+).

Also we are excited to report that the fabrication of our new Box Turtle exhibit-home has begun. It may be recalled that this was funded entirely via the general public and our Friends of the Zion Nature Center, a fundraising and support group created specifically for the center. The Friends' \$5,000 donation near the tail-end of our fundraising process helped put us over the top and allowed us to get the fabrication underway.

- *Zionsville Parks Golf Course (ZGC):* Our new management team met the advertised March 24<sup>th</sup> opening date. Weather forced the course closure for at least a day of that following weekend and also some of the last week in March as well. As a result, the gross revenues for March 2017 were our second lowest ever at ~\$2,438 (~\$2,087 in 2013 was our lowest and our average over 9 seasons of operation has been ~\$7,212).

*Highlighted Park Maintenance Efforts*

- *Extensive Damage along Trail SP-1 in Starkey Park:* As an update, clean up results have been tabulated and calculated (in the case of internal staff hours, etc.). Calculation showed over \$13,000 of damages and replacement costs to replace like with like, and this was submitted to the Town's insurance carrier. The insurance company adjusted the value to a figure of about \$11,000 and we have received a partial check of ~\$7,000 (the rest will be coming closer to the end of the process). This initial insurance reimbursement has been used to purchase the materials to replace the smashed boardwalk. We are working with an Eagle Scout and Church group to build the Boardwalk (in the same manner it had originally been constructed). We are awaiting their start on that portion of the project as the weather moderates a bit. We have also been in design conversations with 2-3 galvanized metal stair manufacturers and or finalizing the required engineering to replace the stairs with a longer lasting and lower maintenance solution. As such repairs/upgrades must be custom built for the site's local conditions we still anticipate late spring/early summer before such are fabricated, shipped, arrive, and constructed on site.