



Presented May 1, 2017 (7:30 am)
Town Council Report for April 2016
Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:

Park Programming

- *Zion Nature Center Open House:* The anniversary of the 15th year of operation out at our center is this month and for May 20th. And we are inviting the public in for a celebration from 1 to 4pm on that Saturday!
- *Environmental Programming:* Our Park Naturalist, Mindy Murdock, had 1711 in total attendance in programs and at the Zion Nature Center for the past month. Nearly a third of those (565) were self-directed visitors to our Nature Center.

Also we are excited to report that the fabrication of our new, museum-quality Box Turtle exhibit/home is moving along and photos of the progress are being posted regularly on the Town website and other social media. 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 to support 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):* Weather has continued to be an on and off challenge. For example the heavy rains forced the entire last weekend in April to be closed. Still, the gross revenues for April 2017 were our third highest ever at ~\$23,661 (~\$28,974 in 2012 was our highest and ~\$9,262 in 2013 our lowest for this month). Our average over 9 seasons of operation has been ~\$19,422).

Other Highlighted Parks Matters

- *Overly-Worman Park Conceptual Design Process:* The onsite assessments were 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. These three scenarios were refined by the Consultant Team based upon public comments presented at the end of the charrette process and melded with feasibility constraints into a single draft presented to the Park Board for their comment and consideration. The Consultant Team also developed conceptual cost opinions that can be used as rough guidelines for budgeting and our phasing considerations (if such are needed). And The Park Board has authorized a series of applications from various federally funded grant programs to try and assist the taxpayers by reducing phasing costs.