PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

APRIL 2021

Events

Breakfast with the Bunny sold out and went very well. It was a lot of fun and the event went smoothly even though we were indoors. The first outdoor event is Earth Day on April 24. It will be good practice for the summer events.

More work is needed to prepare for the summer events and concerts. However, we have recruited a good number of artists for the art fair. I have two interns but could use another to dedicate to working on summer event prep.

Classes/Programs

I had to cancel all the Spring fitness classes. There were multiple issues. One, continued low registration. Two, a COVID surge preventing indoor classes. And third, both of my instructors became unavailable for medical reasons. I'm hopeful the non-fitness classes will do better. Thankfully we have many options.

Parks

There are park cleanups/work days scheduled for each of the 5 parks in April & May. I ordered the items approved via the Parks Improvement (2020-21 CIP). We'll have 5 new trash bins in Municipal and Lathrup Park, two new parks signs (Municipal & Sarrackwood) and three new message boards (Municipal, Goldengate & Sarrackwood). A new planter will be installed at Warren Park. Soccer goals are up at Lathrup & a temporaru pickleball court will be installed

Rentals

Rentals have picked up for the summer period. We have a lot of bookings for the park for graduation parties and a couple weddings. We will need to provide clear signage and work with the police to manage the folks to show up early on the weekends planning to use the Pavilion without renting it. I plan to post the scheduled rentals each week so folks can see the space is reserved and find out how they can rent the space for their events. We received 4 patio heaters for use at the Pavilion. These will extend the season which we can use and rent the Pavilion.

Projects

The community vegetable garden is making good progress. The fence poles are up and the remainder of the fence should be complete this weekend, along with building the raised beds. We also installed a cement pad for an eventual shed. They have a great board and good members. 9 plots of 20 are sold.

The dog park is also getting ready to make some moves.

Upcoming & Requests for Help

Lots of classes, events and outdoor stuff.

Please encourage folks to sign up for the amazing variety of recreational programming they have available. We have in-person and virtual options, free stuff, kids stuff, adult stuff, senior stuff. Hobbies, trips, fitness. It's discouraging to work so hard to set up these programs only to have to cancel.

MARCH 2021

Building

All major building systems are currently functioning as normal.

We've been completing some minor electrical repairs. I plan to have the roofers and heating/cooling for to check for any damage from the winter and prepare for the summer.

The plumber came out to test our water and flush the water fountain lines. They found the fountains are older models without filters. They recommended we not use them.

Contractors

No updates

Grounds

We've begun working on the Spring cleanup of City Hall grounds. Debris from the late Fall and Winter was removed. Next we will remove weeds, trim trees/bushes and add mulch where needed. Working with DDA on flowers and landscaping upgrades. Sprinklers will be turned on this week.

Projects

The basement lobby project came out really nice. It will increase the value of the space once we're able to host dance studio rentals again.

I am setting up a full inspection of the building, which was cancelled due to the pandemic last year. This will help us understand where our issues are and what order we need to address them.

The electrician will be doing some evaluation of the generator to see if we can expand capacity.

On-Going Issues

Minor electrical, the water fountains remain unusable

Safety

Have not been able to finish COVID-19 practices review project or update signage within the building.