

Parks and Recreation Report for the Month of June

Staff were on hand for the Tower Days Celebration from June 12-13. Even though events were modified due to the pandemic and the safety of our citizens we still had successful events. Good crowd sizes attended the kid's activities (350 crowd attendance), 5 k run (35), car show (20 cars), lumberjack (170) and music (120). A big thank you to the Public Works and our volunteers for their help and support during Tower Days. Also, want to give a special thanks to the HS football players for volunteering and helping with kid's activities.

I attended the Tower Days wrap up meeting on June 22. The celebration was reviewed, recommendations were made for 2021. Discussion included changing bands every year, moving fireworks to Saturday along with the entire day long celebration and bringing back the parade.

The Music in the Park program has been well received. Approximately 180 people attended the two concerts on June 9 and 23 at Lakeside Lions Park. It was fun to see the large age range of people enjoying the music.

Able Park playground program is averaging 20 children per session for both the paid and free programs. On Wednesday's special events at Able Park are planned along with a few day trips. In the past we coordinated with Fridley for transportation on day trips however due to COVID restrictions, Fridley made the decision early on not to do any day trips which then unfortunately raised the cost for our participants thus limiting our offerings.

In Person activities offered in June included:

Adult Yoga, Nordic Walking, Mosaic Bird Bath, Pickleball, Dance Classes, T Ball, Paddleboard, youth soccer, sand volleyball, and ninja warrior classes.

I attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on June 1st. The commission discussed their plans for Tower Days participation.

On June 18, I met with Mark Beer from Mounds View to review Lakeside Lions Park financials to date and to set the 2022 budget. I also completed the Parks and Recreation Budget for 2022.

Jamie Cassidy, our new Program Supervisor started working on June 21.

Staff met with WSB to discuss the status of the Park Master plan on June 22. WSB should be ready to present the finalized plan in August. Once details are finalized viewing will be announced.

Staff met with website consultants to work on a separate site for the Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition, I attended city council meetings and department head meetings during the month of June.

Upcoming programs:

At Lakeside Lions Park on July 21th, the No Limits B-side Band will be performing a variety of music playing many familiar songs from both today and yesterday starting at 6:30pm.

The youth softball tournaments will be held July 29-31. Come out to the parks and cheer on the young ball players as they compete.

This concludes the report for June.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kay Okey
Parks and Recreation Director