
MEMO

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: KAY OKEY, PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: TRAVEL MARKETPLACE AND CONFERENCE
DATE: 2/28/2023

The Parks and Recreation Department received an invitation from Select Traveler for our tour manager to attend their spring conference in Branson, MO. The conference is an opportunity for delegates to network with travel industry representatives and build relationships with travel attractions and hotels for the purpose of making informed buying decisions. I would like to send Anne Scanlon, Tour Coordinator, to this conference. This conference will provide new ideas for her to better serve our residents, develop extended tours and take advantage of discounts on group rates.

In addition, Anne would be attending a familiarization tour of the city of Branson. The Recreation Department has an extended tour scheduled for Branson in November 2023. The opportunity to tour a location prior to a tour is a valuable learning opportunity and will provide Anne with additional information, experience and knowledge that will enhance our level of customer service, which we pride ourselves on. The Branson Tourism Department is offering this tour at no cost.

Conference Dates: March 27-29	Conference, lodging meals: \$295.00
Familiarization Tour of Branson: March 30-31	Tour, lodging, meals: \$0
Transportation - Gas:	Approximately: \$853.00
One-night Lodging on way to Branson and return	Approximately: \$260.00
Misc. Meals	Approximately: \$100.00
Total Cost:	Not to exceed: \$1600.00

The cost of the conference will come from the Recreation Fund reflecting no cost to the taxpayer.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kay Okey
Parks and Recreation Director