

Parks and Recreation Department Report for the Month of August

I attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on August 4th. The commission met at Lakeside Lions Park where Faye Murphy was welcomed as a new member. The commission toured Lakeside Lions Park and inquired about developing a trail in the woods on the west end and updating the park rules sign. I am in conversations with Mounds View on these inquiries since this is a jointly operated park.

August 6th was the last day of the summer youth program. The shorten 5-week program was successful and served 92 youth during the free morning program and 61 participants for the fee-based afternoon program.

The Fall Adult softball program got started with 14 teams on August 2nd. Over 270 adults comprised the 14 co-rec teams which plays ball on Sundays at Terrace Park. This program is co-sponsored by Torg Brewery. The league will finish with a tournament on September 25th and 26th.

Dine and Dance Music was held on Wednesday, August 12, which was the last evening performance of the summer. I would like to thank Legends of Blaine and the Spring Lake Park Lions for their generous donations to this program. Their sponsorship allowed us to present this summer program at half the cost. Beyond the Yellow Ribbon provided concession stand service.

An organic composter was built and installed at Sanburnol Community Gardens by Sam Lilledahl, a local Boy Scout. Sam will stop by twice a month to rotate the bin for proper mixing.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities the Recreation Department offered Yoga, youth dance classes, and soccer drop in clinics at Terrace and Able Park. We also had two citizens volunteer for Adopt-A-Flower Bed Program along with several citizen who did not officially register but assisted in weeding while visiting the park. We want to thank all citizens for helping us keep our parks beautiful. Adopt-A-Flower Bed applications are available on our website.

During the month of August, I wrote and updated our COVID-19 Preparedness Plans for each separate event that will be held at the school district facilities, outside venues and classes at City Hall.

The fall brochure went out to homes in mid-August. I also communicated with the District Community Education Department on flyer distribution in the schools and we will be allowed, for now with classes in session, to distribute our marketing flyers. This has been a critical marketing tool for us in the past.

Recreation Department is offering new virtual events that will be free of charge these include a virtual 5 and 10K run, Water Challenge, and Esports.

This concludes the Parks and Recreation report for the month of August.

