

**Inver Grove Heights
Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, October 12, 2011
8150 Barbara Avenue
7:00pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PRESENTATIONS – Items that don't require action.
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our web site at www.invergroveheights.org
 - B. Next Meeting; November 9, 2011 Regular Meeting 7:00pm
5. CONSENT AGENDA – All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and have been made available to the Commission at least two days prior to the meeting; the times will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commission member or citizen so request, in which event the item will be removed from this Agenda and considered in normal sequence.
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Approval of September 14, 2011
6. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment provides an opportunity for the public to address the Commission on items that are not on the Agenda. Please raise your hand to be recognized. Please state your name and address for the record. This section is for the express purpose of addressing concerns of City services and operations. It shall not be used to clarify individual's views for political purposes. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person.
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Items that are brought back to the Commission for action from a previous meeting.
8. REGULAR AGENDA - Items requiring action that are new to the Commission.
 - A. Discuss Change to Skate Park Rules
 - B. Review Seasonal Closure of the Rock Island Swing Bridge
9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS - Items that need to be discussed without any actions.
 - A. Department Happenings
10. COMMISSION COMMENTS – A chance for Commissioners to ask questions or make comments.
11. ADJOURN

Since we do not have time to discuss every point presented, it may seem that decisions are preconceived. However, background information is provided to the Commission on each agenda item in advance from Staff; decisions are based on this information and past experiences. In addition, some items may have been discussed preliminarily at Work Sessions. If you are aware of information that has not been discussed, please raise your hand to be recognized. Comments that are pertinent are appreciated.

**City of Inver Grove Heights Minutes of the Proceedings
Of The Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, September 14, 2011**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Dennis Schueller called the September 14, 2011 Park and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Vice Chair Dennis Schueller: Commissioners: Stan Johnson, Jim Huffman, Marty Silvi, Chris Solberg, and Desta Meyer

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson

Absent: Chair Al Eiden; Commissioners: Joe Boehmer and Willie Krech; Recording Clerk Sheri Yourczek

3. PRESENTATIONS:

None

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our Web Site at: www.invergroveheights.org

B. The next Park and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 12, 2011. Regular meeting 7:00 p.m.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of Agenda

B. Approval of Minutes of June 8, 2011

Motion by Commissioner Silvi, seconded by Commissioner Solberg, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

8. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Consider Construction of Scenic Overlook Near the Rock Island Swing Bridge

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson stated Mark Borgwardt, Parks Superintendent, will speak regarding this item.

Mark Borgwardt, Parks Superintendent, stated this proposal is to build an overlook deck at the end of the old railroad bed that went over top of the bridge. The proposal is to build a deck that would hang over a steep slope. Two proposals were received for the project. One was from Woods Construction and Carpentry Inc. for \$35,200.00. The second was from Tree Trust Landscape Services for \$40,906.19. Jeff from SEH gave us a proposal that was modeled after a park near Hudson, Wisconsin. We received the engineering drawings for that and modified them as we saw fit for our area and sent that out for two quotes as stated. We are asking that you recommend Woods Construction to build that. They stated they could get this installed this fall. The funding will be from \$60,000 remaining from the Rock Island Swing Bridge project that the City has already approved. The suggestion is to use the contingency of \$4,800 to provide access to the job site and potential soil corrections. Our recommendation is to use \$40,000 of these remaining RISB (Rock Island Swing Bridge) project funds to build the RISB scenic overlook.

Commissioner Silvi asked what the life span was of this project?

Superintendent Borgwardt responded they will use heavy duty timbers so it would be about 30 to 40 years.

Director Carlson stated the old railroad that came off the top of the bridge splits into a "Y". One goes toward River Road, the other toward 66th Street. We own everything up to the "Y" and half in either direction. We are working with the property owner who owns the other half to acquire that other half so we can construct a trail. That trail is part of the 66th Street re-construction project. One that project is completed, and the trails are constructed, it will lead right up to this overlook.

Commissioner Solberg asked if they looked into maintenance free decking as opposed to treated.

Superintendent Borgwardt said they did not. They went off the materials at Willow River State Park. They were impressed with that.

Director Carlson stated some of the materials used would be similar to that used for the Rock Island Swing Bridge project. It is designed to mimic what the old trestle used to look like when it was in place. People will get a sense that it looks like a railroad trestle.

Commissioner Huffman asked if as it ages, will it look like the material on the bridge?

Director Carlson responded yes it will.

Motion by Commissioner Huffman to go with Woods Construction to get the platform built. Seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

Vice Chair Schueller asked how high this was off the ground?

Superintendent Borgwardt responded about 11 feet, 9 inches. It has a very substantial railing. It meets all City codes.

Vice Chair Schueller asked how far is it from the water?

Superintendent Borgwardt responded it is 32 feet 8 inches. It wouldn't be to the water, it would be to the bank. To the river itself, it is probably about 50 feet.

Vice Chair Schueller asked what the view is like from here?

Superintendent Borgwardt stated when you stand at the deck you will be looking to the north of the bridge.

Director Carlson commented you will be at the same elevation as the bridge itself.

Vice Chair Schueller asked if there were plans to put anything on this platform? Benches?

Superintendent Borgwardt responded not at this time.

Commissioner Meyer asked how high the railings were? Would they be like those on the bridge? There is \$60,000 left from the bridge project. If this is approved, there is \$20,000 left. Will that need to be used for something else? Is there a timeframe for its use?

Superintendent Borgwardt responded they looked into using the same railing as on the bridge, but it was highly expensive. He asked the contractors to mimic what is on the bridge in treated timber. It will have the same look and gaps as the real railing.

Director Carlson responded to the questions about the money that was left over from the project. Due to the project not being as expensive as they thought it would be, this proposal is a way to use those remaining funds.

Commissioner Silvi stated we have never discussed this before. What benefit is this beyond the bridge? It doesn't overlook anything that the present bridge doesn't? It is hard for him to envision this as he hasn't been on the bridge because it is too far to walk. He questioned whether it is worth spending the money to have another overlook since we have the bridge itself.

Director Carlson stated we envisioned an overlook as part of the overall Master Plan. This helps us do a decent job of completing the Master Plan. Everything will be completed on the South side of the Master Plan. This has a different view of the area other than the bridge itself. The Master Plan envisioned that the trains went on both levels of this. Through interpretive displays we hope to let people know of that fact, especially those who didn't see it that way back then. Our hope is that they can interpret the trains coming off that. By putting people in the same elevation as those trains came off the bridge, they will have a better understanding of why this helped grow Inver Grove Heights.

Commissioner Silvi asked if this money has to be used here. Could it be used to help defray the cost of moving the City Hall?

Director Carlson stated the City Council can choose how to use this, or not use it at all.

Commissioner Huffman commented that this overlook will help tell the story. He suggested they get a motor scooter to take Commissioner Silvi there.

Commissioner Silvi can't see where this is adding that much to the overall bridge experience. He could see the money being used elsewhere.

Commissioner Meyer can remember seeing information on where the potential overlook would be at the ribbon cutting ceremony. It would be interesting to look down and give the broader look of the shoreline. Her children wanted to walk through the grass to look down, so she can see where people would be interested in that. She agreed with Commissioner Silvi in that this seems a little expensive if it's only treated lumber.

Superintendent Borgwardt stated this is a way for those that don't want to use the bridge, to still see the bridge and the view. This will be ADA accessible.

Director Carlson wanted to address the cost and funding. Let's assume the Rock Island Swing Bridge project was done and we were right at zero for any money remaining for the project. We would still have brought this project before the Commission as it's still a part of the Master Plan. We would have had to use the Park Acquisition Funds 100% to pay for the project. Because there are remaining funds for the project we are recommending those funds for the project.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 1 (Silvi) Motion carried.

Director Carlson stated this will go before the City Council on September 26th.

B. Consider Proposal to Sponsor a Painting Project for the Arbor Point Tunnel

Director Carlson stated Parks Superintendent Mark Borgwardt will be speaking regarding this item. He will be introducing Girl Scout Catherine Link to present this as a Girl Scout project.

Parks Superintendent Mark Borgwardt stated this item is regarding the use of the College Trail tunnel as an experiment in trying to reduce graffiti and vandalism in the tunnel. The park system has three tunnels, the North Valley/South Valley tunnel, the Highway 52 tunnel south of Upper 55th Street, and this tunnel off College Trail. Every year we paint the tunnels at least four, five, or even six times at approximately \$300.00 a time. There is money allotted for this in the Parks budget. Sometimes they exhaust it. Sometimes they spend \$2,500.00 to paint those tunnels. Every time we paint it, it is like we are giving them a new palette to present their frustrations with society. The proposal before you is by Catherine Link, a local resident and Girl Scout. She emailed him and through some internet research she has a project for you to take a look at. There are studies that have been done in different urban park settings that came to the conclusion that if you provide a creative outlet for graffiti artists, such as putting nice artwork up, it deters people from using the wall to do destructive obscene vandalism. She has a proposal for you to use the College Trail tunnel as a site for a park contest. She would like to discuss this proposal with you further.

Catherine Link wanted to thank them for taking the time with this proposal. She thinks that having art on the walls of the tunnel will reduce graffiti. She did some research and found that having art on the walls will reduce the amount of graffiti. The research that was done was in Philadelphia and Subways in England. The art in the tunnel will be something pretty to look at. Having a contest will give those a way to channel their inner artist instead of doing graffiti. Holding a contest yearly will keep the kids involved and keep their artwork in the tunnels new. The City might save some money. By doing this, maybe the tunnel would only have to be repainted once a year instead of three or four times.

Commissioner Huffman asked if they had any examples.

Ms. Link showed a few photos.

Superintendent Borgwardt stated there is a lot of bad stuff in those tunnels. She has a sketch of possible artwork. There can be nature scenes, the sunset, or even a Timberwolf.

Ms. Link suggested a theme for the project named a Walk on the Wild Side. All the entries could include native Minnesota animals and vegetation.

Commissioner Huffman has found that once something is painted usually they won't be painted over.

Commissioner Silvi felt this was a worthwhile project. He congratulated them for bringing this before them. He asked if this washes off?

Ms. Link responded it does.

Superintendent Borgwardt stated they can see how this goes in the College Trail tunnel. If this works they can expand this program to the other tunnels.

Commissioner Huffman asked if her signature would be on this mural? He would like to see her name on this project so people know who did it.

Superintendent Borgwardt stated there will be a need for a panel to help judge. Whoever wins the contest will paint the tunnel. Maybe we can get local art teachers, some of the Commission here, and maybe even himself to help judge it.

Commissioner Huffman asked about getting Brian Stewart involved. He created the design on their lapel pins.

Director Carlson asked how many different murals can be in the tunnel?

Ms. Link responded one side has six panels, the other side has seven. There would be 12 panels to paint as she would like to paint one herself.

Commissioner Meyer asked if Catherine had contacted the Middle School or High School to publicize this? How will you get entries?

Ms. Link responded she has emailed the schools and has not received a response yet. She will contact them again. She was planning on advertising through the schools art classes.

Commissioner Meyer asked who will supervise this? What about the entries and the timelines?

Ms. Link responded she has already done most of that. She has a rough draft of the rules as well as a timeline.

Commissioner Huffman asked what rank she is in the scouts?

Ms. Link responded she is a Cadet in the seventh grade.

Commissioner Solberg asked when she wanted to start this? This fall?

Ms. Link was hoping to do this in the fall, maybe early November. She showed the Commission a timeline she had created for the project.

Commissioner Meyer thought it may be more realistic to paint in the spring. The fall could be more cold and difficult to paint in. This would also give you more time.

Commissioner Johnson felt if the weather was good this fall, it should be fine to start, if not wait till spring. She can use her own discretion on when to begin.

Commissioner Solberg asked how long the chalk lasted? He would hate to have all that work done in the fall only to be gone by spring.

Motion by Commissioner Silvi to approve from the Parks Division budget the sum of \$500.00 to begin the art program. Seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

Commissioner Solberg thanked her for coming in here. She did a wonderful job of doing this. It will be a great addition to our City. She did a great job.

Director Carlson mentioned we may want to consider somehow contacting people that live in the neighborhood and let them know that this is something we are contemplating. When we make changes to things we should get neighborhood feedback. To ensure this is a positive thing, we may want to engage the neighborhood in this. He also stated it has to go before the City Council for their review and approval as well. He asked Ms. Link if this was part of a process to earn a badge?

Ms. Link responded it is. It would be her Silver Award for Community Service badge.

Commissioner Silvi asked if he should revise his motion to recommend that the City Council approve the money from the Park Fund to cover the cost of the program. Commissioner Johnson seconded the amendment.

Vice Chair Schueller commented that he has traveled many places and has seen several murals in buildings and parks. He thinks it really adds to the parks itself and it does avoid the graffiti that you see. This is a great idea and he appreciated that.

Director Carlson stated this would be on the City Council's Agenda on Monday, September 26th.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS:

A. Department Happenings

Director Carlson stated he had nothing specifically to comment on. He will stand by for any questions the Commission may have.

Commissioner Solberg noticed on the Golf Course we had financials and information through July. How is it doing through August?

Director Carlson stated the Golf Courses got off to a late start this golf season due to the weather. The course is doing okay. They just aerated the greens in the last few days. They will be starting the second phase of the four phase cart path project next week. The course is doing the best it can considering the circumstances.

Commissioner Silvi commented it was really nice seeing the golf course marketing change now that they are advertising in newspapers and other media. It seems like it has made a difference.

Vice Chair Schueller stated we paid for an assessment of this course. It would be nice to get a detailed report from either City Staff or Golf Course Manager Al McMurchie letting us know what has been tried from the information that was sent to us from that assessment. It would also be nice to know what wasn't done and why. He is sure some suggestions were tried, and some were not. It would be nice to know exactly what was successful and what hasn't been, what hasn't been tried and why. It would be helpful at a future meeting to have a report back to us.

Commissioner Silvi agreed that it would be nice to see how the performance there has changed since then.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Huffman stated it was nice to be back. He hopes they can proceed and get things done down by the Rock Island Swing Bridge.

Commissioner Silvi commented there was some discussion awhile back with determining what is a handicapped vehicle and what wasn't on park property. Have we done anything further on that?

Director Carlson responded they are working on a policy that will be brought before this Commission and the City Council. It is called Other Power Mobility Devices. We are working with the City Attorney's office and

our ADA Consultant on the development of a policy so that it is consistent with state and federal law. We will let you know once that is ready.

Commissioner Solberg asked if other Cities would be going through the same thing?

Director Carlson stated others are. They are all working on their own policies. Because of the laws being so new, there are not a lot of examples out there.

Commissioner Johnson had no comment.

Commissioner Solberg stated he has come to end each meeting with a quote. Tonight's quote comes from the Father of our National Parks, John Muir who said "whenever you walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks". Because of that he encourages everyone to go out and explore our parks or a park somewhere and find out if that quote is actually correct.

Commissioner Meyer had no comment.

Vice Chair Schueller stated while the maps of our parks are great, a citizen of Inver Grove Heights brought up the fact that when one looks at the map of the parks they have trouble finding the information that states "you are here". Do you have that information on the maps?

Director Carlson felt he was referring to the way finding maps around Inver Grove Heights. Ultimately the map was not designed with a "you are here" listing on it. We would have had to make 40 different maps to show that. To keep costs down, we made one map with numbers on them. The number on the top of the map tells you where you are on the map. He said they have heard that comment from a few different people though. Maybe we need to put information on how to interpret the signs and the maps.

Vice Chair Schueller congratulated all the people who planned, organized, and implemented Inver Grove Heights Days. He felt things went very well. It was a great event. Everyone that was involved in planning it did a great job.

Commissioner Solberg stated the Fireworks were spectacular.

Director Carlson stated Inver Grove Heights Days is a volunteer based group of people who do not work for the City. Those folks meet regularly to plan the different events that make up Inver Grove Heights Days. The City plays a small role in supporting this. This is not a City organized program. It's all volunteers that do all that work.

Commissioner Huffman thanked the Dakota County Historical Society for welcoming us into the City of Inver Grove Heights. They have never had a presence in our City. Through the sale of our lapel pins, it will help pay to put up interpretive signs down by Heritage Village Park. It was a combined effort from Director Carlson and Chad Roberts the Director of the Historical Society, as well as himself working together.

11. ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Solberg, seconded by Commissioner Silvi, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Discuss Possible Change to Skate Park Rules

Meeting Date: October 12, 2011
 Item Type: Regular Agenda
 Contact: Tracy Petersen – 651.450.2588
 Prepared by: Tracy Petersen
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation
 Mark Borgwardt

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Fiscal/FTE Impact: | |
| X | None |
| | Amount included in current budget |
| | Budget amendment requested |
| | FTE included in current complement |
| | New FTE requested – N/A |
| | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

To discuss a possible change to the current skate park rules that would allow bikes at the facility

SUMMARY

The skate park facility was installed in 2003 and has been in operation for eight (8) years. At the time the skate park concept was developed, an initial task force of Parks and Recreation Commission members, staff, local citizens, public safety and teens developed the rules for the park. At that time, it was determined to only allow in line skates and skate boards at the facility.

Over the course of the past eight (8) years, the skate park has remained a consistently active and positive amenity of our park system. Staff has been approached several times over the past few years about the use of bikes at the facility.

Staff would like the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss the possibility of changing the park rules to allow bikes. Some factors to consider in your recommendation include:

Relationship between Bikers and Skateboarders:

At the onset of the development of skate parks, the theory was that bikers and skateboarders did not mix well together. This has proven to be unfounded at most skate parks, including our own. Usage has shown that for the most part, the two groups are respectful of one another's space.

Wear & Tear on the Equipment:

Our equipment from Skatewave was designed for both bikers and skateboarders. Bikes can add additional wear and tear to the equipment mainly in the form of scratches due to bike pegs.

Insurance:

As a non-supervised, tier I park, allowing bikes at the facility would not negatively impact the City's insurance coverage.

Skate Park or Bike/Skate Park:

Philosophically, the Parks and Recreation Commission needs to discuss whether it is a one-use facility or a multi-use facility.

Change in Usage:

Over the past eight (8) years, the park has seen a change in use. There are often more bikers than skateboarders at the facility. Currently the City does not have an established and legal area where bikers can go.

Current Practice:

As a non-supervised, tier I facility, there is no on-site supervision of the skate park. Currently, and over the majority of the life of the facility, bikers have used the park on a regular basis.

Enforcement of Current Rule:

The City is not required to provide supervision at the skate park nor does the City have the resources to do so. Therefore, it has been extremely difficult to enforce the “no bikes allowed” rule at the facility. When staff has been able to enforce, it has been sporadic and inconsistent. Users at the park have indicated that no one is ever asked not to bike at the park or leave the facility.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Review Seasonal Closure of the Rock Island Swing Bridge

Meeting Date: October 12, 2011
Item Type: Regular Agenda
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None
 Amount included in current budget
 Budget amendment requested
 FTE included in current complement
 New FTE requested – N/A
 Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Recommend that the Rock Island Swing Bridge be closed seasonally between November 1st and March 30th.

SUMMARY

The Rock Island Swing Bridge opened to the public on June 8, 2011. The structure is constructed of steel with a wood deck. Given the structures location over the Mississippi River, it is recommended that the structure be closed seasonally from November 1st – March 30th each year for public safety and maintenance purposes. It is proposed that a gate restricting access to the bridge be temporarily installed on the structure itself and that signs be posted at the barricades on 66th St. The closure will be advertised on the web, Facebook, via a press release to the local news papers, and in InSights.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Department Happenings

Meeting Date: October 12, 2011
Item Type: Administrative Presentations
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

| Fiscal/FTE Impact: | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Amount included in current budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Budget amendment requested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FTE included in current complement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New FTE requested – N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Item is for informational purposes and Commissioners are encouraged to ask appropriate questions.

SUMMARY

Items included:

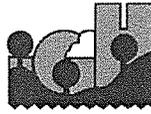
- Department Happenings Report
- VMCC Financial Statement
- Inver Wood Monthly Statistics
- Miscellaneous

Items to be discussed:

- Miscellaneous



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Parks

Tree Removal And Planting

Park crews plan on removing approximately 30 ash trees in four parks this fall as part of city's plan to address Emerald Ash Borer. These trees will be replaced with a more diverse species list with remaining grant money received from Department of Natural Resources.

Heritage Village Park

It was a busy year at Heritage Village Park. Additional fill was brought in to provide greater depth of fill to satisfy requirements of plan from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. This area was then seeded with native prairie mix. Stockpiled material at Blaine storage site was trucked to McPhillips lot after being tested for suitability as fill material. South Grove street re-construction fill was also hauled to McPhillips lot and city lot south of 66th Street near Rock Island Swing bridge. A storm pipe was installed at McPhillips site to connect wetland in Heritage Village Park with pond at end of Doffing. Additional fill will be hauled to McPhillips lot next year to complete capping/grading plan for site. A grant has been secured through the DNR and implemented through Great River Greening to plant wetland in this area next spring. This will help complete the restoration of this contaminated site to native landscape. Prairie Restorations was on site to conduct selective mowing and spraying of prairie on north end of Heritage Village Park. Parks also contracted for burning and selective mowing and spraying of prairie at Harmon Park Reserve. Parks plans on mowing prairie north of 65th Street in October as part of maintenance for this site to help control weeds and tree volunteers. Eventually the entire prairie from 65th Street to Gun Club property will be burned every three years to help establish native grasses and control weeds and invasive trees. Gertens will be on site in October to replace any dead trees under warranty planted the last couple years.

New American Flags On Cahill

Park crew installed new American flags, provided by the American Legion, along Cahill Avenue.

Re-construction of 52 Trail From Upper 55th Street to 63rd Street

A section of the 52 trail from Upper 55th Street to 63rd was re-constructed by contractor. A new ped ramp with truncated domes was also installed at Upper 55th Street.

VMCC Concrete Sidewalk Repair

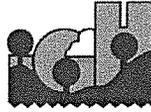
Deteriorated concrete sidewalk and curb around the VMCC were replaced by contractor. All the concrete sidewalks and entry ways to the VMCC will be power washed clean and sealed this fall to protect from ice melt chemicals. New liquid ice melt product will be used to minimize damage to concrete starting this winter.

Oakwood Tennis Light Poles

The four tennis court light poles at Oakwood Park were sandblasted by a local contractor down to bare metal and painted with two coats of primer and two coats of cover coat. Prior paint testing before work commenced showed there to be no lead paint on poles. Color of poles was changed from white to black umber to match existing trail and parking lot poles installed a few years ago.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Turf Maintenance

Annual late summer broadleaf weed spraying in parks was contracted this year. Approximately 153 acres of park turf was sprayed for broadleaf weeds. Park staff has been busy with other turf maintenance tasks such as aerating, fertilizing, overseeding, topdressing, mowing and irrigation. Parks continues to use composted organic chicken manure as the primary turf fertility and soil building amendment.

Skyview Soccer Field

Work has wrapped up for the season on the conversion of two ballfields at Skyview to a large soccer/football/lacrosse field. As part of street re-construction project in the area approximately two feet of fill from street project was hauled into Skyview and graded for soccer play after a foot of topsoil was scraped off. The field has been rough graded per plan and temporary seed for erosion control planted. Hopefully the city will be successful in securing DNR grant, recently applied for, so irrigation can be installed next spring and field laser graded and permanently seeded with athletic mix.

Park Boundary Survey

Yaggy Colby will be completing park boundary survey this fall. As soon as leaves fall in October they will be completing the park boundary survey at South Valley, Salem Hills and Harmon Park Reserve.

Bituminous Trail and Parking Lot Condition Rating

Parks has contracted with GoodPointe Technology, Inc. to conduct a bituminous trail and parking lot condition rating assessment to help better plan where to spend maintenance resources. This is the same company and methodology used by IGH Engineering for the city's street infrastructure. It should help better target maintenance dollars and develop a 5-year maintenance plan for bituminous trails and lots.

Fence Installation by South Valley Playground

A 120' section of 6' high chain link fence was installed behind playground at South Valley Park to prevent young kids from a steep slope near playground. Fence provides for a safer playground experience.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Inver Wood Golf Course

Free Clinics – Final Tally

A total of nine (9) free instruction clinics were conducted on Saturday mornings throughout the spring and summer. A total of 125 women attended these sessions covering both full swing and short game fundamentals. Also, six (6) free instruction clinics for our junior golfers were held on Friday mornings throughout June, July, and August. A total of 120 juniors attended these sessions.

On-Course Projects

Each September, Inver Wood's 28 greens are routinely aerated in order to eliminate soil compaction and promote healthy turfgrass root development. Aeration was completed on the executive course on Tuesday September 6th and the back nine the following day, September 7th. The front nine and practice putting green were aerified on Monday September 12th.

Installation of 5,716 feet of golf car paths began on September 19th with removal of existing paths and grading complete that week. Pavement was installed and completed the following Monday and Tuesday.

This completes the replacement of all golf car paths on the front side of the championship course.

Reminders

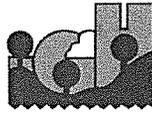
Please help promote Inver Wood's Family Program. On Fridays after 2:00 PM and Saturday and Sunday Afternoons after 12:00 Noon, children ages 7 to 17 play free with each paid adult Executive Course green fee.

Fall Golf at Inver Wood. The fall color at Inver Wood is beginning and is always spectacular due to our large variety of tree species. Cool, clear days combined with aggressive leaf removal procedures by our maintenance staff will provide some of the best golf conditions of the season. Help spread the word about a great time of the year to play golf at Inver Wood.

And to make tee times and for complete information regarding programs and rates, visit our website at www.inverwood.org



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Recreation

Halloween Events

Staff will be busy preparing for a number of Halloween events this fall. They include our 8th Annual Boo Bash, Halloween House Decorating Contest, Family Haunted Bonfire and our new Scary Skate and Black Light Dodgeball events. These events are all great family activities at a great price!

Random Acts of Fitness

Town Square Television recently did a story on our Random Acts of Fitness program.
http://townsquaretv.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=2896&meta_id=70110

Non-School Days

The first non-school days are approaching and the recreation division will be offering our S.P.A.R.K. days at Veterans Memorial Community Center October 19-21. Activities include gymnastics, water park, ice skating, group games, crafts and field trips. For more information visit www.funatthegrove.com

Girl Scout Art Contest Project

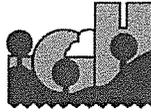
Staff has been working with Girl Scout, Katherine Link, on her art contest project to reduce graffiti in the community. Staff will be assisting here in the coming months with marketing and ways to involve/engage the community in this creative endeavor.

North Valley Disc Golf Pay-to-Play System

The first season of our pay-to-play system is nearing its conclusion at North Valley. Overall, the system was a success. Staff also finished the scheduled course improvements and they look great! Over the winter staff will provide the Parks and Recreation Commission with a more detailed review of the season and some recommendations for possible changes.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Veterans Memorial Community Center

New Fitness Equipment

The fitness center received three new pieces of cardio equipment and some strength equipment this fall. Staff will continue to evaluate the needs of our users as we continue to make our facility and equipment safe and up-to-date.

Hands-Only CPR

Veterans Memorial Community Center is offering a 30-minute CPR class. The hands-only CPR is a potentially life-saving technique involving no mouth to mouth contact. Sessions are being offered at various times of the day throughout October-December. Check www.funatthegrove.com for more information.

St. Paul Farmers' Market

The St. Paul Farmers' Market is winding down and will close on October 13. The addition of some added events to the market seemed to go over well this year with market customers. Staff will continue to look at cost-effective ways to enhance the experience and draw in more visitors.

Plum District Voucher

The Community Center is trying a new marketing avenue this fall with Plum District. Consumers have a limited time to buy a \$9 voucher for a family admission (actual value is \$19.50) to the water park via the Plum District website. The City will receive 60% of the voucher price and Plum District will receive 40% of the voucher price. Customers have until 4/3/12 to redeem the purchased voucher.



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 1, 2011

To: Eric Carlson, Parks & Recreation Director

From: Al McMurchie, Golf Course Manager

SUBJECT: MONTHLY STATISTICS - AUGUST

NUMBER OF REVENUE ROUNDS

| | <i>AUG 2010</i> | <i>AUG 2011</i> | <i>YTD 2010</i> | <i>YTD 2011</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Championship 18-Hole | 1,620 | 1,678 | 7,305 | 6,824 |
| Championship 9-Hole | 845 | 1,312 | 4,526 | 4,493 |
| Executive | 1,280 | 1,689 | 5,834 | 6,125 |
| Patron 18-Hole | 237 | 229 | 1,477 | 1,076 |
| Patron 9-Hole | 157 | 92 | 856 | 475 |
| Patron Executive | 57 | 63 | 331 | 282 |
| Sr./Jr. 18 | 1,245 | 1,884 | 4,993 | 6,078 |
| Sr./Jr. 9 | 416 | 606 | 1,589 | 1,900 |
| Sr./Jr. Exec. | 2,163 | 2,528 | 10,102 | 8,859 |
| Twilight | 150 | 105 | 661 | 603 |
| Patron Twilight | 27 | 20 | 129 | 505 |
| Sr./Jr. Twilight | 15 | 54 | 96 | 164 |
| Family Adult Executive | 5 | - | 96 | - |
| Family Senior Executive | - | - | 5 | - |
| High School Teams | - | - | 1,831 | 1,532 |
| TOTAL | 8,217 | 10,260 | 39,831 | 38,916 |

PATRON CARD SALES

| | <i>AUG 2010</i> | <i>AUG 2011</i> | <i>YTD 2010</i> | <i>YTD 2011</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Resident | 0 | 0 | 145 | 97 |
| Non-Resident | 0 | 0 | 133 | 95 |
| TOTAL | 0 | 0 | 278 | 192 |

COMPLIMENTARY ROUNDS

| | <i>AUG 2010</i> | <i>AUG 2011</i> | <i>YTD 2010</i> | <i>YTD 2011</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Promotional | 0 | 17 | 3 | 55 |
| Professional | 2 | 2 | 10 | 18 |
| TOTAL | 2 | 19 | 13 | 73 |

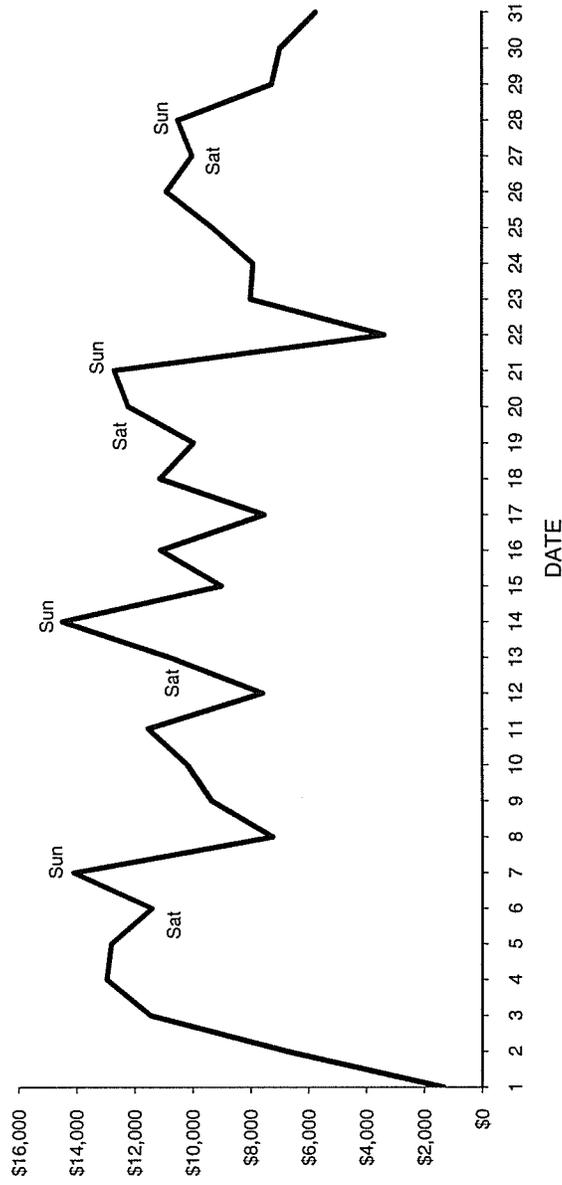
WEATHER DAYS

| | <i>AUG 2010</i> | <i>AUG 2011</i> | <i>YTD 2010</i> | <i>YTD 2011</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| TOTAL | 30 | 30 | 132 | 116 |

INVER WOOD GOLF COURSE

| AUG | 2011 | DAY | DATE | REVENUE | WEATHER |
|-----|------|------|------|------------|---------|
| | | Mon | 1 | \$ 1,354 | Storms |
| | | Tues | 2 | 6,755 | Warm |
| | | Wed | 3 | 11,466 | Warm |
| | | Thur | 4 | 12,976 | Warm |
| | | Fri | 5 | 12,817 | Warm |
| | | Sat | 6 | 11,422 | Warm |
| | | Sun | 7 | 14,120 | Warm |
| | | Mon | 8 | 7,258 | Warm |
| | | Tues | 9 | 9,368 | Clear |
| | | Wed | 10 | 10,211 | Clear |
| | | Thur | 11 | 11,572 | Clear |
| | | Fri | 12 | 7,607 | Clear |
| | | Sat | 13 | 10,833 | Clear |
| | | Sun | 14 | 14,528 | Clear |
| | | Mon | 15 | 9,032 | Warm |
| | | Tues | 16 | 11,134 | Clear |
| | | Wed | 17 | 7,552 | Clear |
| | | Thur | 18 | 11,168 | Clear |
| | | Fri | 19 | 10,006 | Clear |
| | | Sat | 20 | 12,263 | Clear |
| | | Sun | 21 | 12,741 | Clear |
| | | Mon | 22 | 3,404 | Clear |
| | | Tues | 23 | 8,040 | Warm |
| | | Wed | 24 | 7,949 | Warm |
| | | Thur | 25 | 9,362 | Clear |
| | | Fri | 26 | 10,959 | Clear |
| | | Sat | 27 | 10,074 | Clear |
| | | Sun | 28 | 10,582 | Clear |
| | | Mon | 29 | 7,320 | Clear |
| | | Tues | 30 | 7,044 | Clear |
| | | Wed | 31 | 5,793 | Clear |
| | | | | GROSS | 296,710 |
| | | | | Tax Factor | 1.07125 |
| | | | | NET | 276,975 |

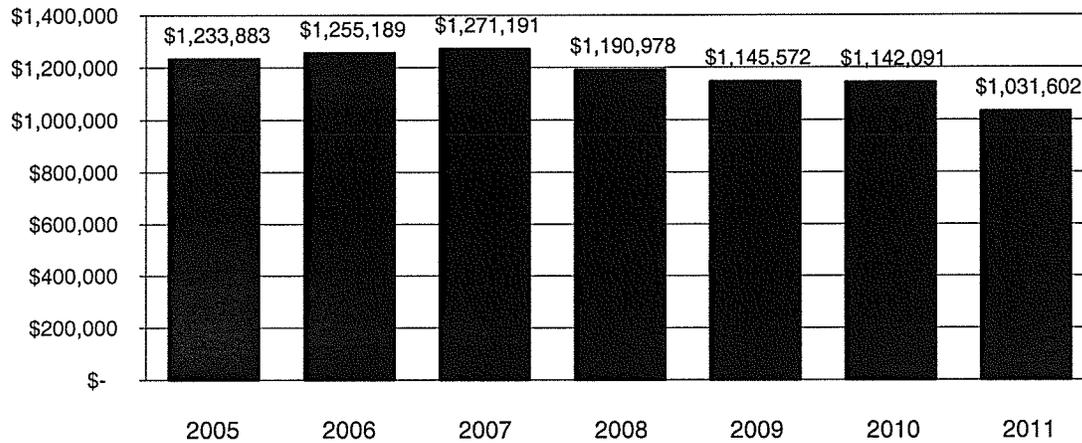
AUGUST 2011- GROSS REVENUE



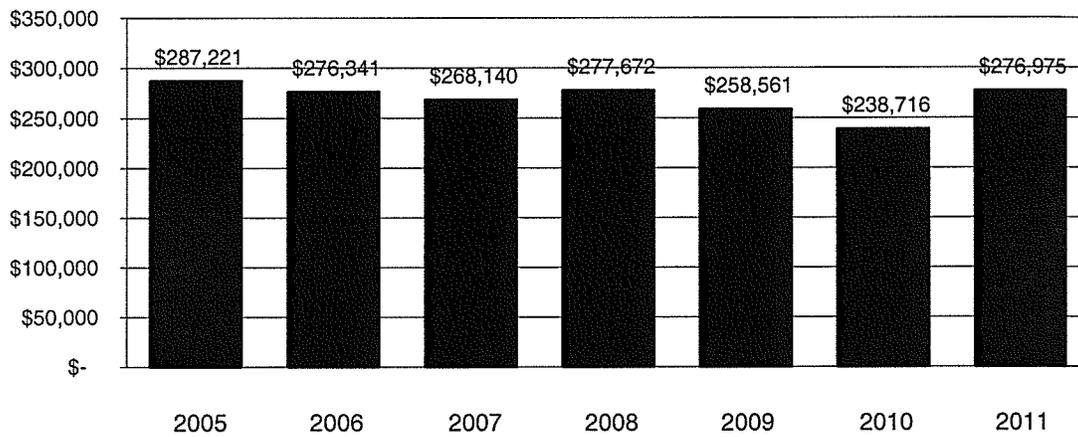
| | AUGUST |
|------|------------|
| 2005 | \$ 287,221 |
| 2006 | 276,341 |
| 2007 | 268,140 |
| 2008 | 277,672 |
| 2009 | 258,561 |
| 2010 | 238,716 |

INVER WOOD GOLF COURSE

REVENUE - YEAR TO DATE THROUGH AUGUST 31st



REVENUE - AUGUST



CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Commission Comments

Meeting Date: October 12, 2011
Item Type: Commission Presentations
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Amount included in current budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Budget amendment requested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FTE included in current complement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New FTE requested – N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Commissioners are encouraged to make appropriate comments.

SUMMARY

None.