



Monthly Department Report – January 2018

Numbers at a Glance

Comparisons for time period of 7/1/17 – 2/15/18 vs. 7/1/16 –2/15/17:

Total Registrations:	971	666
Total First Time Registrations:	436	426
Activities Running:	121	89
Total # of Transactions:	1147	815

Program Updates

Senior Trips/ Programs: Winter is a difficult time for many seniors to commit to programs due to the weather, and since this winter has been so difficult, we weren't surprised when we had to cancel or trip to the Wilbur Candy Factory tour due to limited enrollment. The weekly shopping trips continue to be a great service that we can provide our local seniors, and we will look forward to better weather and a greater turn-out for our February trips.

Youth Programs: The department partnered with Windham Youth Basketball to offer the annual Hot Shots Tournament, sponsored by the Maine Parks and Recreation Department on Friday, January 26th. We were the only community in the Southern Maine region that had representatives at all of the age categories, so 12 Windham youth can advance to the regional competition on February at South Portland, and could then possibly qualify for the State Championship at a Red Claws game in March. Happy Hearts Creative Movement for pre-school kids currently is filled to capacity with 10 kids enjoying dance on Friday mornings. The Lego program will start back up again in February. Kiddie Gym continues to help parents beat the winter blues, with up to 60 different pre-school kids coming on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Adult Programs: The Men's Basketball League began its Winter Season in January with 9 teams participating. The winter session of the Men's Tuesday and Thursday Open Gym program also began in January with 13 people currently participating in that. The Sunday morning Open Gym Basketball and Volleyball programs which run throughout the winter currently have 92 people participating as either a season pass holder or a drop-in participant. Adult Pickleball currently takes place on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Town Hall Gym, with 12 participants participating as a regular participant or as a drop-in.

Outdoor Programs: Snow shoes are available to be loaned out from the department, and we have sizes for youth, women and men. This program has been extremely popular this year due to the amount of snow we have been experiencing.

Special Events Update

Winterfest was changed to much earlier in the winter this year as a way to promote all of the ways to participate in winter activities in the Windham region. Unfortunately, Saturday, January 6th came two days after the Blizzard, and it was a week of power outages and fuel shortages for many. The bitter cold seemed to keep folks away from the Winter Beach Party at the Middle School, but for the 40 people that came, they had a wonderful night with many great give-aways making everyone happy. Winterfest kicked off the 2018 Winter Photo Contest, and we had 19 people enter, with 31 photos submitted. The prize winners and some of the other photos are displayed in the hallway outside of the Parks and Recreation Department, and all of the photos are displayed on our website. The S'Mores and Skate Nite scheduled for Friday, January 19th was very well attended, with 70 people coming out to enjoy the music, the fire and the s'mores – not to mention great ice skating conditions.

Facility Updates

Work continues on the Lippman Park Workshop project; Request for RFQ's for design work of Community Park; Trails at Lippman, Lowell and Mountain Division are groomed for cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing; Ice rinks at both Lippman and Manchester Courts are being cleared and flooded for ice skating

Department Projects

Preparing to manage all Summerfest registrations through our department in order to assist the volunteer members of that committee; Initiating updates of department policies; Pulling together promotional materials for Dundee Park and Summer Camp

Staffing Levels

Year-Round Staff – 3 Full-time, 1 Part-time, 2 Per Diem Van Drivers
Trail/Maintenance Staff – 1 Full-time

Organization/Town Meetings

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee: The committee continues to seek ways to enhance our department offerings and increase recreational resources. Major goals continue to be development of Community Park, and advancement of the pre-development phase of the Community Center.

Be the Influence: I continue to participate with this committee and seek ways to provide quality programs that can help our youth feel valued. Plans are underway to support the Volleyball tournament scheduled in March.

Amazing Chase: This committee began meeting again in January to initiate plans for the 2018 event.

Monthly department staff meetings on Friday mornings

Future Event Dates

S'Mores and Skate Nights – Friday, February 2nd – Manchester Rink

Father Daughter Dance – Friday, February 9, 2018