



Monthly Department Report – July, 2016

Program Updates

Senior Trips/ Programs: We encourage folks to call in and get added to the mailing list for the Senior Newsletter so they can be kept informed of the offerings. In July we had a busload of seniors go to Poland Spring Preservation Park and then lunch at Cindi's Dockside Restaurant, and then to the Isles of Shoals with our neighboring communities. We also offered transportation to our summer concert series at Dundee Park, and the weekly shopping trips continue to be popular with a number of seniors.

Discount Ticket Program: This program has really taken off this summer, and we have sold a number of discount tickets for the following summer recreation venues: Funtown/Splashtown, Aquaboggan, Mt. Cranmore, York's Wild Animal Kingdom, and Water Country. Tickets are available in the office during regular business hours, and will be offered through Labor Day Week-end.

Summer Day Camp: Summer Day Camp participants had a great time throughout the month of July, with a number of fun outings and special events. Some of the highlights included Emotional Health Day, with a visit from a therapy dog, Harry Potter Day, a visit from Slugger, entertainment co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library, a kayaking clinic at Lippman Park, community service at the Maine Wildlife Park, and trips to state parks, Funtown/Splashtown, Seacoast Fun Park, the Children's Museum... to name a few! The weekly camp newsletter that was introduced this summer helped to promote all the great things happening at each of the three camps.

Youth Programs: Our Summer Track Program and Video Production Club were great ways for our youth to stay busy and active this summer. The final product of the Video Production Club will be entered in the Maine Recreation and Park Association's "Why we Love Summer Camp" contest.

Facility Updates

Donnabeth Lippman Park: Summer is a great time to enjoy all that Lippman Park has to offer, and the park is always teeming with activity. Work is being done around the former Portland Water District pump house to clean it up and beautify the area.

Skatepark: Once the plans are returned from the structural engineer, the contractor will be pulling together cost estimates, and we will hope to see the temporary park be opened before the summer ends.

Dundee Park: The park has been extremely busy all summer, particularly due to the limited rain and consistently hot weather. One of our long term lifeguards completed an erosion control project as part of her school internship requirement. We continue to have a number of area recreation departments, as well as private groups reserving the facility for birthday parties, and other special occasions. The park managers have done a great job working with the staffing challenges for this summer.

Department Projects

Donnabeth Lippman Park: A volunteer has approached the department about helping to replace the informational signage around the trails as part of her involvement in a Naturalist Program. Updates will also be done to the kiosk as well.

Staffing Levels

Year-Round Staff – 3

Trail/Maintenance Staff – 1

Van Driver (per diem) - 2

Organization/Town Meetings and Events

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee: The committee continues to work on its two major goals 1: the skatepark rebuild project, along with the development of a multi-purpose park at that location so as to serve more types of users, and 2: research regarding the community's interest in future development of a community center. The on-line survey is still available for people to complete throughout the summer. The committee is also beginning plans for a Halloween celebration.

Summer Concert Series: Together with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, all details were finalized and the 4-week concert series was kicked off with the Hurricanes on July 13th, followed by Jimmy Junkins and the Big Fat Cadillac and Doug Elder as the other July performances. The response from the community was really

positive, and each week the attendance increased. It also seemed to bring a number of people into the park that either had never been there, or hadn't been there in years.

The Amazing Chase: I participate in the Logistics sub-committee for this event, and the complete committee meets monthly. More information about this exciting event that will be held in the Sebago Lakes Region on Saturday, September 24, 2016 is available on the website: <http://sebagolakeschamber.com/ac/>

Summer Lunch Program: Continued throughout July, and the committee will meet at end of the season to evaluate the program and consider options for next year.

Be the Influence: I continue to participate with this committee and seek ways to provide quality programs that can help our youth feel valued.

Monthly department staff meetings on Wednesday mornings

Future Event Dates

August 1st – Full Camp Picnic at Dundee

August 12th – Last Day of Summer Camp

August 24th – Last Day of Summer Lunch Program

September 7th – Dundee Park closes