



Monthly Department Report – January 2017

Program Updates

Senior Trips/ Programs: Winter is a difficult time for many seniors to commit to programs due to the weather, so we did the trip we did offer was canceled due to limited enrollment. We did offer a new shopping trip down to the Market Basket in Biddeford and out to lunch after shopping, and we had a good response to that, so we will offer that alternative shopping location followed by lunch once every 6 weeks or so.

We have also joined forces with other departments in the area, and there are some overnight tour trips that we are currently accepting registrations. This includes St. Andrews by the Sea in New Brunswick from May 6-May 8, 2017 and a trip to Ireland from October 3 – October 12, 2017.

Youth Programs: The After School Mad Science Program continues to be offered at the Primary School throughout the schoolyear. The Multi-Week Ski Programs at Shawnee Peak on Wednesday and Friday nights began the first week in January. There were 19 people who benefited from the Discount Tickets to Disney on Ice that we provided for a Sunday matinee. There were 28 parents and children who attended our free Little Play's Program that we offered in partnership with the Children's Museum in our gym on Friday, January 13. The department partnered with Windham Youth Basketball to offer the annual Hot Shots Tournament, sponsored by the Maine Parks and Recreation Department on Saturday, January 21. The winners of that event can advance to the regional competition in South Portland during February Vacation, and could then possibly qualify for the State Championship at a Red Claws game in March.

Adult Programs: The Men's Basketball League began its Winter Season in January with 8 teams participating. The winter session of the Men's Tuesday and Thursday Open Gym program also began in January. We are also currently selling season passes for the Sunday morning Open Gym Basketball and Volleyball programs which run throughout the winter. Adult Pickleball currently takes place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday mornings in the Town Hall Gym.

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. Sarah Davenport also created a

new guide to snowshoeing and cross country skiing in the area so that people have something to reference when they borrow the snowshoes.

Special Events Update

Plans are underway for Winterfest activities to take place at the Microtel Pool, Manchester School, and Donnabeth Lippman Park on Saturday, February 25. The S'Mores and Skate Nite scheduled for Friday, January 13th was canceled due to a warming trend that resulted in no ice, but the cold weather returned, and skating at that location resumed.

Facility Updates

Donnabeth Lippman Park: Work continues on the storage building at Donnabeth Lippman Park in December whenever Kevin Bailey is not involved with all of the winter responsibilities that he is involved with.

Outdoor Ice Skating Rinks: Flooding of the rink at Manchester School began in December, and an area on Chaffin Pond has been cleared for skating and is used regularly.

Department Projects

Preparing to manage all Summerfest registrations through our department in order to assist the volunteer members of that committee; Preparing additional grant applications for community park, to be submitted between April – November

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 second major goal of the committee has been to continue research regarding the community's interest in future development of a community center. The committee is also working on its plans for Winterfest on Saturday, February 25, 2017.

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

Amazing Chase: This committee began meeting again in January to initiate plans for the 21017 event.

Monthly department staff meetings on Friday mornings

Future Event Dates

S'Mores and Skate Nights – Friday, February 3rd – Chaffin Pond or Manchester Rink
Father Daughter Dance – Friday, February 10, 2017
Winterfest – Saturday, February 25, 2017