



Monthly Department Report – March 2017

Program Updates

Senior Trips/ Programs: The seniors were quite busy during the month of March. A group joined seniors from Gorham, Falmouth, Standish and Cape Elizabeth and traveled down to the Flower Show in Boston. We had one van of folks join our neighbors in Falmouth for a “Luck of the Irish” Luncheon, and we took two full vans to the Green Ladle for lunch provided by students at the Lewiston Regional Technical Center. Finally, we had 10 seniors go to our special shopping trip to the Market Basket followed by lunch at Mulligans in Biddeford.

Youth Programs: The After School Mad Science Program continues to be offered at the Primary School throughout the schoolyear. The After School Yoga Program on Wednesdays for children in Grades K-5 was a big hit, and we offered a second Spring Session. We offered an Early Release Day Program for the middle school population, and we had 9 youth join us for a pizza party and a trip to Spare Time Bowling.

Adult Programs: The Men’s Basketball League continued its winter season, as did the Men’s Tuesday and Thursday Open Gym program. Two of the Sunday morning Open Gym Basketball programs will come to an end in early April; the 40+ program will continue until the end of April. Adult Pickleball currently takes place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday mornings in the Town Hall Gym.

Special Events Update

Mother Son Sports Night: The 4th annual Mother Son Nite was held on Friday, March 31st, and it was a very successful event. Once again, we partnered with the local youth sports organizations in offering the event, and this year we added two more organizations who took part in this (Gaelic Football and St. Joseph’s College Men’s Soccer team) for a total of 7 organizations. The photo booth with fun photo opportunities and the DJ were both hits. We had volunteer support provided by St. Joseph’s College, so it was a great community event for all involved. This is a fundraiser for the department, and this year we shared the proceeds with all 7 organizations who contributed to the success.

Facility Updates

Donnabeth Lippman Park: Work continues on the storage building at Donnabeth Lippman Park whenever Kevin Bailey is not involved with all of the winter responsibilities that he is involved with. We are also planning to install swings at the park this spring to enhance the existing playground there.

Lowell Preserve: As soon as weather permits and our seasonal part-time maintenance employee returns to work, there are plans to repair a bridge on one of the trails, and to put new signage in the section of trails that had been logged by the owners of that property along the border of the preserve. Trail maps will be updated to reflect the new signage as well.

Department Projects

Preparations for Summer Camp and Dundee Park are underway; Department is working with volunteer committee members of Summerfest to help them with the registration and communication processes through our software program

Staffing Levels

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

Trail/Maintenance Staff – 1 Full-time

Attended St. Joseph's College Career Fair to recruit seasonal summer employment and future interns

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. In March, the committee went before the council and was granted approval to establish an Ad Hoc Community Center Committee to do some preliminary work on a plan for a possible 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.

Amazing Chase: This committee began meeting again in January to initiate plans for the 2017 event.

Monthly department staff meetings on Friday mornings

Future Event Dates

April Vacation Week activities for both Elementary and Middle School populations

"Celebrate Spring" Luncheon and Performance by Windham Center Stage Theater – Wednesday, April 26th – hosted at Windham Town Hall by Parks and Recreation Department; Towns of Falmouth, Gorham, and Cape Elizabeth will be bringing their seniors to this event