



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Robert L. Tetens, Director
Date: June 12, 2012
Re: Project and Activities Update – May 2012

A. Development Projects

Independence Lake

- Construction of the Spray and Play Zone project is progressing well. Almost all of the building footings have been installed. Plumbing and electrical conduit within the floor portions of the building are complete, and parts of the perimeter sidewalks around the parking lot are in place. Overall the project remains on schedule.
- Cleanup and fencing of the recently acquired 10 acres is in progress.

Rolling Hills Park

- Dan's Excavating is addressing items identified in our final inspection of the project elements. This work should be complete by the end of June.
- The Grand Opening dedication and associated activities was held on Sunday, May 20.
- Sidock Architects submitted 100% construction documents for the Water Park expansion for staff review.
- A contractor completed the work to upgrade the sewage pump system.

County Farm Park/Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center

- Construction began on the new gateway arch structure over the pathway entry on Washtenaw Avenue.
- A special informational kiosk (cedar lumber with stone base to match existing structures) is scheduled to be installed at the Platt Road entrance. In addition, two standard informational kiosks will be built and installed at the Medford entrance and near the new Washtenaw Avenue entrance.

Ann Arbor Skate Park

- Six proposals were received for design services of the skate park. The review team conducted interviews with the two finalists during the week of May 28.

Pierce Lake Golf Course

- CMA Design Services completed the pavilion expansion.

Sharon Mills Park

- A contractor is recommended to repair or replace the pedestrian bridge adjacent to the mill pond dam west of Sharon Hollow Road. Staff is currently in discussion with the selected contractor to further define the scope of work.

Osborne Mill

- Final landscape restoration of the new parking lot and drive (including landscape plantings) was completed.

Parker Mill Park

- A special informational kiosk, matching the existing mill foundation, is scheduled to be installed near the sidewalk adjacent to the parking lot.

Park Lyndon

No report

Staebler Farm

- A consultant was hired to prepare and outline a draft farm operations plan for the Staebler Farm property (see memo).

B. Special Initiatives

Greenways and Trails

Border to Border Trail (B2B)

- Construction continues on Segment D1 (River Terrace Trail), southeast of Dexter.
- Staff continues to assist the City of Ypsilanti in revising their project to extend the B2B from Riverside Park into the Water Street redevelopment area.

Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP) and Management

- A 10 acre property in Scio Township, adjacent to the DeVine Preserve, was purchased.
- A Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment for a 70 acre property in Lima Township (Baker property) was completed.
- An MDEQ permit application to construct boardwalks in the Spike Preserve was submitted to the state.
- A contractor was engaged to construct a parking lot for the Squiers Preserve.
- Staff continued work on trail layouts for, Spike, Draper-Houston Meadows and Trinkle Marsh Preserves.
- Site planning drawings for the Trinkle Marsh Preserve were submitted to the reviewing agencies.
- A consultant was engaged to provide maintenance services to the prairie plantings at Northfield Woods Preserve.

C. Interpretive Programming

- Twenty programming days in six parks, one mill and two preserves - nearly 1200 participants.
- Staff continued work for 2012 Geocache Adventure.
- Locations marked for placement of interpretive signs at Park Lyndon and work continues on creation of interpretive signs for the Fox Preserve.
- New seasonal park naturalist Jennifer Sano began work this month.

D. Other

- Website: Updates as requested.
- Planning intern worked on informational kiosks for parks, interpretive signs for the Fox Science Preserve, NAPP property information packets, and B2B project informational signs.
- NACPRO has granted the Rolling Hills accessibility project an award in their Removing Barriers Initiative category. The award will be presented at the annual awards banquet on July 15, 2012 in Pittsburg.
- Staff hosted Ypsi Pops – Symphony in the Park event on Sunday, May 27th at Riverside Park in Ypsilanti.
- Day Camp counselors led games at ice cream socials at nearby elementary schools to promote the day camp at County Farm Park.