

**Director's Report
For
November 14, 2012**

Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

A. Projects

1. **Laurel Clark Fountain:**
 - a. Closed for the season. Final seasonal operational costs will not be complete until the next quarterly water billing cycle; indications appear all costs will be within the prescribed budget for the year.
2. **Concrete Projects:**
 - a. Complete.
3. **Parks Paving Projects – All Paving Projects Below are Complete**
 - a. Johnson Park Picnic Road.
 - b. Lincoln West Lot – includes adding ADA access to softball diamond.
 - c. Pershing Soccer Field Lot.
 - d. Mound Cemetery Service Building.
4. **Painting of Handrail at Gaslight Pointe:**
 - a. Complete.
5. **Park Place Tuck Pointing**
 - a. Project in process and is being managed by Public Works.
6. **Lincoln Softball Diamond:** The diamond restoration is complete; the fence installation is in progress.
7. **Douglas Park Softball Lighting Replacement**
 - a. Bids are scheduled to be opened November 8th.
8. **Bryant LED Lighting:**
 - a. Bids are scheduled to be opened November 8th.
9. **Chavez Roof Replacement Sections 5 & 10**
 - a. Bids are scheduled to be opened November 8th.
10. **Playground Equipment Replacement:** Burke/Miller & Associates has been selected as the equipment supplier. Paperwork has been submitted to request permission to waive bids & requested the Purchasing Agent to negotiate pricing.
11. **ADA Updates for 2012:**
 - a. ADA updates for Island, Lincoln, Lockwood & Roosevelt Parks have been completed.
 - b. All rentable park shelters are now ADA accessible.
 - c. Total PRCS facilities 95% ADA compliant or greater = 57 of 104 facilities or 55%.
12. **Cemeteries:**
 - a. Mound:
 - i. Paperwork has been submitted to hire Rudie, Butterfield & Seitz to complete design and specifications for the Mound ADA restroom.
 - b. Graceland:
 - i. The Graceland Pond restoration has been shifted to DPW/Wastewater as a 2013 project.
13. **Golf Courses:**
 - a. No Update.
14. **Wustum:**
 - a. No Update.
15. **Zoo:**
 - a. No Update.

B. Recreation

1. Adult Basketball numbers are down. A total of 14 teams registered for the season. Games are played on Thursday nights at Chavez, Bryant and Starbuck Middle School.
2. Adult Volleyball numbers have stayed at a level number over the past years. Over 90 teams will be playing in either Coed, Women's and/or Men's leagues. Matches are played on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Chavez, Bryant, Gilmore and McKinley Middle Schools.
3. Adult Fall Softball and Kickball leagues ended the last week of October.
4. The PRCS Dept now has 300 Face book "likes".
5. Staff visited and presented to the Kiwanis Club on Wednesday, October 31, after their business meeting. This gave our PRCS Dept an opportunity to highlight a few of our programs and projects. Visiting more local groups and clubs will be a goal of our department in 2013.
6. Informational packets for the Black History Youths Achievement Awards have been delivered to Racine Unified District for distribution. This program is entering its 30th year of existence. This year's program will be scheduled in February at Memorial Hall.
7. Youth Basketball Registrations were held at Chavez Center on the following nights September 6, 12, and 18 from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Staff from PRCS registered over 1,100 participants during scheduled registration. MIS set up computers at Chavez for the three off site registration dates.
8. Senior cookout for senior programs at Chavez was held on Friday, September 21.
9. On Tuesday, October 23, NASSCO and SportKote did a strip and wax demo to the wood gym floor at the Cesar Chavez Community Center. The demo went well and the floor looks great. Staff is looking at continuing the use of these products at the community center sites.
10. Fifteen (15) participants received basketball instruction at our Fast Break Basketball Camp which was held on Thursday, October 11.
11. The first annual "Monument Mash" held on Saturday, October 20, was a hauntingly good time for all who participated. The event featured a bounce house, low intensity games, face painting, a DJ playing haunted hits, and a pumpkin and costume contest. Contest winners received gift certificates donated by the Downtown Racine Corporation. It was estimated that over 200 people participated in the event.
12. Make A Difference Day
 - a. TDCC collected 600+ athletic shoes as part of MADD and the Reuse-A-Shoe program on Saturday, October 27. The shoes which stay out of the landfill are taken to a recycling facility in Milwaukee where they are processed to be turned into athletic courts.
 - b. 25 family members from Youth for Christ cleaned out the garden that was started by Park High School staff located in the TDCC tennis court. The group removed debris, cut down overgrown vegetation, and cleared garden space. The goal for the garden is to have community groups adopt plots and begin to plan for Earth Day plantings.

C. Parks

13. Drainage repair to the Johnson Park picnic area has begun. We are positive that the repairs will redirect rain runoff from entering the pavilion.
14. Winter preparations are underway.
 - a. Plows have been inspected.
 - b. Snow routes have been updated.
 - c. Tires have been placed on Lockwood sledding hill.
15. Fall maintenance and leaf mulching is still occurring in all Parks.

16. Horlick Athletic Field will be hosting the Semi-Pro BCS National Championship football game on Saturday, November 10. Staff will be making sure that our showcase facility is ready for the event. A large number of spectators are expected.
17. Our Fall tree order is in! Approximately 400 trees have been order and will be planted by city staff. Just fewer than 1,000 trees have been placed along city streets and parks this past year.

D. Community Centers

18. Dr. Martin Luther King Community Center

- a. Zumba classes are going so well, we will be adding another class on Wednesday mornings. We currently offer Zumba on Saturday's, Wednesday's and Monday's.
- b. Our Halloween Party was scheduled on Friday, October 26 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm. Activities included a trip to the Haunted House, decorating spider cup cakes, games and a costume contest.
- c. A new water heater and boiler have been installed at the community center. Just in time for old man winter.
- d. Twelve (12) teams registered for our 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament. The tournament was held on Thursday, October 11.
- e. Two (2) basketball games were scheduled against the Milwaukee Boys & Girls club. One on Thursday, October 4 and Thursday, October 18. Teams were made up of Middle School and High School players. Plans are being made for our teams to travel to Milwaukee for a rematch.
- f. Putting together final plans for the AfterZones Programs. The King Center programs are set to start the second session which is scheduled to begin late November. The programs to be offered are Chess, Madd Science, Spoken word, and Photography.
- g. The Home Energy Plus program has been using office space to do energy assistance here every other Tuesday from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. They have served a total of 55 families for the month of October. They will be here until March of 2013.
- h. Donation letters have been sent out for our annual Thanksgiving Basket Give-A-Way, our goal is to provide ten (10) baskets to ten (10) needy families.

19. Humble Park/Cesar Chavez Community Centers

- a. Hispanic Roundtable held an annual luncheon at Chavez on Saturday, September 14. Over 50 people in attendance.
- b. Tile flooring was installed at Chavez in main hallway and gym office.
- c. Senior cookout for senior programs at Chavez was held on September 21.
- d. "Caught Being Good" program at Humble Park has been a popular incentive for good behavior. Staff has said Unified Schools are doing a similar program this year. We started ours in 2011.
- e. Humble Park celebrated Halloween with a party for local residents/kids in October. Activities included Face painting, games, crafts, food and more. Approx. 60 participants came to the event.
- f. Both Humble Park and Chavez Centers had floors stripped and waxed the week of September 17.

20. Bryant/Tyler - Domer Community Centers

- a. Our community choir at Bryant has started; we are still in the recruiting stages of our program. The children seem to be excited about this program.
 - b. Our Halloween celebration was a success, 180 children were in attendance. Activities included face painting, games and coloring.
 - c. Staff is in the process of ordering supplies and pieces to start our AfterSchool Zone Ceramics Class scheduled to begin late November.
 - d. The Racine Street Gym group sponsored their fall luncheon, many attended.
 - e. Staff has promoted and started an adult open pool league on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's from 12:30-3:00 pm. This program will be free and open to the community.
 - f. Staff is in the planning process for the Family Christmas Dinner. Each year the various Motorcycle Clubs in our city raise money to buy gifts for the children in this community; so far they have never missed a child. This event will take place on Saturday, December 15, 2012 at 6:00pm.
 - g. Our senior groups are going well, the numbers are increasing, and the communities of seniors are pleased with our services.
 - h. Effective November 1, the Bryant Community Center will be collaborating with the Renaissance School for elementary gym on Monday's and Thursday's from 10:00 am-12:00 pm.
 - i. Our Departments Youth Hoops Program uses the center gym for practices Monday through Friday and games on Saturday's. Practices have already started with games scheduled to begin Saturday, November 10.
 - j. TDCC plays host to a wide variety of groups throughout the week. Some of them include Careers, Campus Ministry RUSD, Narcotics Anonymous, the "Old Ladies" ping pong group, and Senior Quilters.
 - k. TDCC's "Tip Off" senior basketball program has gotten off to a nice start. The seniors have played on two of the three scheduled days. The program runs from 10:00 am-12:00 noon on Tuesday mornings. We are hoping to grow the program through word of mouth and normal marketing strategies.
 - l. TDCC participated in Make a Difference Day by hosting a Haunted House. The event was scheduled from 2:00 pm-5:00 pm on Friday, October 26. Approximately 150 youth and adults had the "bejeebes scared out of them" in the computer room converted into a house of fear. A non-perishable food item was asked for admission.
- B.** Crafts and Cakes is presenting a unique program where youth can create a craft and bake a treat using a weekly theme. The program is offered on a bi-weekly basis at the
1. Tyler – Domer Community Center on Thursday's and Dr. John Bryant Community Center on Tuesday's.