

Bath Township Parks & Recreation Board Report March 2019

To provide educational programs, recreational activities, community facilities and quality parks for the enrichment of township residents. –Parks & Recreation Department Mission

2018 Parks & Recreation Programs & Events

Educational Programs (5): Hunter Safety classes (x4), a Bike Rodeo, First Aid/CPR/AED Training (school personnel), Car Seat Safety Inspections, and a youth Entrepreneur Fair.

Events (12): Aiko's Gotcha Day Paw-ty Celebration, Easter Bunny event, Craft Sale, Dance Recital, Fishing Contest, Ice Cream Social, Snow Sculpture Competition, Summer Park Activities, Trash to Treasure, Truck or Treat, Buck Pole, and Community Bowling.

Recreational Activities (22): Basketball (x5 including Adult Open Gym, Youth Recreation, K-1 Clinic and Skills Clinic), Baseball (x2 including Tball & Little Sluggers), Bus Tours (x4 including Casino, Goodwill, Garage Sale, Mystery Tour), Dance, Drums Alive, Flag Football, Adult Gentle Yoga, Family Running Club, Scrapbooking, Scrap Around the Clock, U6 Soccer, youth Volleyball Clinic, youth YMCA Instructional Volleyball and Adult Zumba.

Community Facilities: The five Community Facilities include the Bath Community Center, the Park Lake Beach, V. Jack Wiswasser Park, Rickard Boat Launch and James Couzens Memorial Park.

Quality Parks: The Township offers four developed parks including V. Jack Wiswasser, the Park Lake Beach, Rickard Boat Launch, and James Couzens Memorial Park. Members of Girl Scout Troop #30684 with Mary Frook, continue to plant and maintain the flower pots in our Parks during the spring and summer months.

New events offered in 2018 included the First Aid/CPR/AED training for school personnel, Aiko's Gotcha Day Paw-ty Celebration, a Bike Rodeo, Car Seat Safety Inspections, a youth Entrepreneur Fair, Bus Tours and a Trash to Treasure event.

Revenue & Expenses

Program revenue continues to exceed program expenses. Altogether, Hunter Safety registered the largest number of participants in 2018 programs. Event numbers far exceed the number of registrants in recreational programs. The total number of registrants in Parks & Recreation programs and events for 2018 was over 2,540. It is important to keep in mind that the number of registrants doesn't take into consideration the number of hours spent in a

program as many of them repeat with practices and games. It has become impossible to determine exact numbers for residence, ages and gender due to some events not requiring registration.

Collaboration

Parks & Recreation works very closely with Department of Public Works (DPW) staff, Police, Fire, Senior Center, Farmers Market, and the Bath Community School District. Bath Schools graciously provides the use of ball fields, gyms, cafeterias, the auditorium and parking lots for the use of sporting activities and events. Without their unwavering commitment to Parks & Recreation, we simply would not be able to offer sporting activities and some events.

Volunteers & Sponsors

I have had the privilege of working with nearly 200 volunteers and sponsors in Parks & Recreation programs/events during 2018. The inclusion of volunteers is essential and very much appreciated.

In 2018, Truck or Treat was supported with less than half a cent/participant and was the largest attended with 450 youth (not to mention adults). This event provided for 35 businesses to hand out their literature and a piece of candy to each Trick or Treater. Many families in our community look forward to this event each year not to mention businesses.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Parks and Recreation Committee meetings are held with up to seven committee members in addition to Karen Hildebrant serving as the staff member. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Trustees room.

Safety & Quality Testing

Annual preparation and testing takes place to offer and maintain safe drinking water in Wiswasser Park. In April the water pipes are sanitized prior to water samples being drawn. Without the detection of coliforms in the water, monthly samples are drawn and delivered to the Department of Environmental Quality Testing Lab in Lansing. Results are sent to my office via email. The process of drawing water is required monthly by the State of Michigan. For Wiswasser Park to remain open to the public, water sample results must fall within their safe criteria guidelines in the detection levels of coliforms and bacteria. The Bacteriology test covers levels of chloride, fluoride, hardness, iron, nitrate, nitrite, sodium, and sulfate in the water. When our August 2018 samples detected coliform additional money and services were needed to call in a licensed well driller and sanitize at the well. Upon receiving word that no coliforms had been detected following this service we were able to provide monthly samples for the remainder of our season.

Procedure Development

A file is kept for 4 years on each program/event. The Michigan Township record retention process mandates that a roster of each team/participant be kept for 4 years. With details from the roster, a completed excel spread sheet, survey results, and a copy of each registration form, details can be transferred to a Program/Event Worksheet that assists the Department in evaluating each program/event. Information from this worksheet is used to prepare an annual summary of the Departments activities (number of participants, revenue, expenses, gender, age, residency, and names of volunteers.

The compilation all of this information determines the future of each program.

Youth Scholarship Assistance Program

The youth Scholarship Assistance Program fund is financially supported solely through donations received. Scholarship funds are available to any youth ages 1-18 that is a resident in Bath Township and those who attend Bath Schools as a school of choice student and those whose parent resides in Bath Township. SAP funds can only be used in Parks & Recreation programs. Each donor is thanked and their donation acknowledged in an email.

The youth Scholarship Assistance Program fund had a balance of \$2,566.05 on January 1, 2019. Donations in 2018 totaled \$869.80. \$256.00 was awarded to qualifying families in 2018, the second lowest amount awarded since the start of our program in 2012. Since January 2019, \$18.00 has been received and \$118.00 has been issued in scholarships.

I truly enjoy working with so many wonderful volunteers in our community and am amazed at their generosity. At the end of 2018 my calendar was full, which meant that programs not meeting expectations have been cancelled for 2019, including the Youth Entrepreneur Fair, a Craft Sale, and the Trash to Treasure sale event.

In 2019, the following changes are scheduled:

Educational Programs: 1 CPR/First Aid online Training w/practical to the public, and a Teen Cuisine class will be added. The Bike Rodeo will be renamed to a Bike Safety program and offered during an assembly at the Bath Elementary School (grades to attend will be determined by school officials), and the Car Seat Safety Inspection requests will be directed to contact Sparrow Hospital, Capital/Clinton Area Safe Kid Coalition to schedule an appointment.

Recreational Activities: Grades 2/3 Basketball Clinic, a youth Cardio Drumming class, a youth Holiday Dance Performance, and a Santa Elf Cam activity (to be held during Farmer's Market) have been added. A change to Summer Park Activities will take place. The programs will be held from 11-noon in the BMS Cafeteria on Tuesdays prior to the school's free summer lunch program.

Community Facilities: A Capital Improvement Project to revamp the Parking Area at Rickard Boat Launch will be submitted.

Quality Parks: The addition of a Gaga Ball Pit to the V. Jack Wiswasser Park will take place this summer.

2019 Goals:

- To continue to develop new programs and events as time permits.
- To continue to monitor details of each program/event.
- To continue to maintain Procedures on all events.
- Submit a Capital Improvement Project to make the parking lot at Rickard Boat Launch more user friendly.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Director for Bath Township Parks and Recreation.

Becky Goodwin, Director

Bath Township Parks & Recreation

2018 Annual Report Update from the Parks & Recreation Committee

The Parks and Recreation Committee started 2018 with the adoption of the Five-Year Plan. We met two different times with the Park Lake Advisory Board to collaborate on the Park Lake Preserve project. An ad hoc committee was formed between the two, which resulted in a Prospectus that provided information about the Preserve as well as a recommendation for next steps.

Our Committee took action from the Prospectus and received Township approval for a survey of the Township-owned property in the Preserve that was complete in December of 2018.

At our first meeting in 2019, we developed a document to manage all of the number one priorities from the Five-Year Plan. That will serve as a working document for our goals in 2019.

Denise McCrimmon, Chair

Bath Township Parks & Recreation Committee