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Parks and Recreation

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To: Westfield Board of Works

From: Melody Jones

CC: Todd Burtron

Date: March 20, 2014

RE: Parks Department Report for March 2014

Dear Board Members:

Move the Snow, Prepare for Grow: Clean up and recovery from winter storms has been a large focus this month, accompanied by continuing projects and preparation for spring events.

**Grant Award:** We have been given informal permission to utilize funds reimbursable through the IDNR Urban Forestry Grant in the amount of \$4,800, beginning this month. As previously noted in February, this grant will pay the salary of an intern for the summer to complete the City tree inventory. We await official release, and should receive it by March's end.

**Maintenance Division:** Hazardous tree removal has begun and the tree inventory in the parks is nearly completed, with only one park remaining. The assessment will be completed by the end of March, as scheduled. Much of the Maintenance Division's time has been spent on snow removal and winter recovery.

Chris McConnell is in the midst of three landscaping plans for the proposed roundabouts at 161<sup>st</sup> and Carey Road, 161<sup>st</sup> and Oak Rd and 156<sup>th</sup> and Springmill Road, being constructed by the City in 2014 and 2015.

**Programming:** Brittany Goger has worked diligently to finish our summer edition of the 2014 Grand Guide. The guide has been finalized and sent to press, with a schedule to hit mailboxes on April 1<sup>st</sup>. New offerings in our second year include summer camps, disc golf lessons in preparation for the opening of our disc golf course later this year and free ESL classes.

**Special Events:** All events through the end of 2014 are at varying stages in the planning process. The Arbor Day Tree Planting and Giveaway on April 26<sup>th</sup> is seeing added attention from Amanda Jackson and the rest of the team as we coordinate event and volunteer preparation. Jordan McBride will be meeting with the Boy Scouts of America with aspirations to create a partnership, allowing scouts to earn badges through nature and preservation-based volunteerism.

Teresa Evans in the Communications Department has finished the sponsorship booklet for 2014. Opportunities are being presented personally, and support campaigns via Twitter and Facebook have commenced.

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