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Parks and Recreation

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To: Westfield Board of Works

From: Melody Jones

CC: Todd Burtron

Date: April 24, 2014

RE: Parks Department Report for April 2014

Dear Board Members:

Everything is growing and everyone is playing, which means Parks and Recreation is in full swing. We are planting, planning and encouraging everyone to get outside to enjoy our wonderful city!

Internships: We have two interns that started on May 19th that will be with us through the summer. Colin Shumake is our Urban Forestry Intern and Melody Van Dusen is our Programming and Special Events Intern. Both have shown they are quick studies and jumped in with both feet. Together, they are sure to help make this season the best ever for Westfield Parks and Recreation.

Maintenance Division: The parks are open and use has gone through the roof. Maintenance Division has contracted Brickman Group to aid with general landscaping and cleaning so the three man division can have greater focus on essential projects along the parks and trails. Recently opened is the disc golf course, a project completed in a joint effort between the Boy Scouts of America and the Maintenance Division.

Programming: English as a Second Language (ESL) classes have begun and turnout has been greater than expected. Besides working alongside Cheri and Carmen for ESL, Brittany is packing the programming facility and the parks with summer programs like Beginning Jazz and Sports of All Sorts. Additionally, new contracts are being written to increase cost recovery and will be effective in the fall.

Special Events: Successful and seamless Arbor Day and Community Plant Day events have set the tone for our Special Events crew (that is everyone!). Approximately 100 volunteers have given over 120 hours to keeping the City clean and beautiful. Additionally, Bike to School went off without a hitch with the exception of a couple scraped knees. We are all set for Bicycle Rodeo on June 7, and Westfield Rocks the 4th is rolling along like a well-oiled machine.

In other news:

- Jordan McBride has recruited Westfield Intermediate School, Sylvania Lighting and Imagine Church to care for the community garden at Christ United Methodist Church. They will be working in conjunction with Stilts Spirit ~ A Giving Tree on the plots that cover nearly one acre.
- David Rubin from Land Collective presented the first conceptual design possibilities for Grand Junction. A large contingency arrived at May 28th's Party on the Patio, located at Parks and Recreation's programming facility on 330 E Main St.

Several projects and events are underway with the weather improvement. Trail construction is progressing along the Monon and in essential areas around the city. Public Works has been outstanding in oversight on Parks large projects. All that happens within our department would not be possible without aid from the rest of the city departments.

Parks and Recreation

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