



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT APRIL 2022

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

External stakeholder interviews with PROS Consulting are currently wrapping up. The statistically valid mailout survey will be mailed to 2,500 randomly selected resident households the first week of May. An online survey will be available to residents and amenity users in early June. OHM Advisors completed an Existing Park and Facility Inventory Assessment visit on April 26. Operational Assessments are currently being conducted by PROS with Parks and Recreation Staff working on a detailed analysis of all programs and events offered by the Department. As you can see things are moving along nicely and we anticipate providing the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board a draft report, followed by a presentation in November or December. Please don't hesitate to contact Steve with questions about the Master Plan process.



Park Signs

Staff is working with Assistant City Manager Amber Holloway to develop a new design for park signs to incorporate the new city logo and branding guidelines. There is \$100,000 in the 2022 capital budget for the replacement of the park signs and \$15,000 for an Art Park sign. We hope to have a design chosen and the project ready for bid by June.

Youth Recreation Scholarship Fund



- As part of our youth sports photography agreement, S & R Digital Expressions donated \$518.40 on April 11, 2022. Bringing the total fund balance to \$34,021.04.
- Four Vandalia-Butler students will be awarded a total of \$456.00 in scholarship funding to assist in paying for an annual membership to the VRC. Each youth will pay a small portion of the membership.
- Three Vandalia-Butler students will be awarded a total of \$1,106.25 in scholarship funding to assist in paying for summer CampRec. Each youth will pay a small portion of the fee.
- In an effort to give all Vandalia-Butler students the opportunity to participate in our programming, we will continue to market the Youth Recreation Scholarship fund. Please help spread the word!

Advisory Board Members

- Tara Landis, Chairperson
- Lydia Baker, Vice Chairperson
- Rick Scherer, Secretary
- Lenny Maenza
- Larry Taylor
- Rodney Washburn
- Corey Follick, City Council Representative
- Bob Costello (Emeritus Status)

PARKS

- Continued maintenance of soccer and ball fields. Weather has been challenging, which has affected our mowing schedule.
- The Cassel Hills Pool main circulation pump has been rebuilt and installed.
- Select areas at the Cassel Hills Golf Clubhouse received new carpet, including the snack bar/pro shop, the office, and the hallway. Select areas of the Justice Center also received new carpet, including the lower training room and hallways, and the 1st floor Community Room.
- Full-time Staff attended a MVRMA sponsored back safety training.
- Installed the golf hitting net and sealed the metal openings on the clubhouse patio. Patio screen replacement will occur soon.
- Poplar Hill Cemetery soil work included filling low graves and ruts.
- Painting work was completed at the Municipal Building in select areas, mainly hallways, and then corner guards were added in high use areas.
- Improvements were made to the Cassel Hills Golf Course maintenance building restroom.
- Replaced a cracked vent pipe on the Cassel Hills Pool concession roof, and a new roof membrane was installed on the pump house.
- Roof work has begun as part of the ESG project. Work is currently taking place at the Recreation Center.

TREE CITY USA

- Community Garden plots at Jeffers Park were tilled and readied for this year's gardeners. Of the 22 garden plots available, only one remains unreserved.
- Preparations are underway for the Arbor Day event on Friday, April 29, at 1:00 PM at Helke Park. 300 bare root trees have arrived and have been individually bagged and are ready to hand out to Helke Elementary students. A Sugar Hackberry tree was selected to be planted at Helke Park for Arbor Day. This tree is native to the US.
- Two of our Staff attended the Tree City USA awards luncheon held in Springdale, OH. Each won a tree, a Redbud and a Black Tupelo, which we will be planting soon. Below is a photo of Andrew Christian accepting our Tree City USA award.



- Including our Arbor Day tree, 14 total trees are on order for spring planting.
- Landscape maintenance has included bed edging and mulch installation at areas around the Recreation Center, Senior Center, and Cassel Hills Pool. Perennial plants were transplanted from various locations, thus utilizing plant material from multiple sites in making landscape improvements. Plants included daylilies and sedum varieties.
- Shrubs were removed from the center drive median entering the Sports Complex, and new shrubs and trees were added. Ground cover sedum will be added to this area and the 2021 median additions on Dixie and National once the threat of frost has passed.

RECREATION

CORPORATE CHALLENGE

Vandalia^{ohio}
2022

11 teams have confirmed participation in the 33rd Annual Corporate Challenge. There is the possibility of a new business joining us this year. Businesses have until April 29 to commit to playing.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| - City of Vandalia | - Johnson Electric |
| - Crossroads Rehab & Nursing | - Kentner Sellers |
| - FedEx Ground | - PSA Airlines |
| - GE Aviation | - Vandalia-Butler City Schools |
| - GE TDI | - Waibel Energy Systems |
| - Inteva Products | |



Little Free Library

Artwork proposals for each of the 4 libraries have been approved and Octagon students are in the process of painting the library's. Once the painting is complete, the libraries will be installed in Copperfield, Brown School, Helke, and Warner Parks.



Successfully Run Programs

- The Adult Easter Egg Hunt happened on Friday, April 8, at 8:00pm. 144 adults participated, which was 19 over the max. We will increase the number of registrants in 2023. Although it was raining, the event went over well and the adults had a great time!
- The Underwater Easter Egg Hunt happened on Saturday, April 9, at 10:00am. 56 kids came out, which was 4 away from the max. Kids had a great time looking for eggs, swimming, and getting prizes afterwards.
- The Community Easter Egg Hunt happened on Saturday, April 16, at 11:00am at the Vandalia Sports Complex. It rained all morning, but we still had a good crowd come out to hunt for eggs.

ATHLETICS



2022 Baseball and Softball

- 436 kids are currently registered. 442 kids participants in 2021.
- Opening Day and pictures were Saturday, April 23.
- Start Smart will begin on Wednesday, May 4.
- Kona-Ice staff is trained and were ready for Opening Day!



2022 Adult Softball

To date, 10 teams are registered for the Monday Men's League, and 5 teams for the Friday Co-Ed League.

RECREATION CENTER

STATS

Stats Update

- March Daily Admission Revenue - \$22,811 Total - \$19,610 Non-Resident revenue, and \$3,201 Resident revenue.
- The Groupon special ended on April 15. 260 punch cards were sold. This special has brought many new faces into the VRC!
- 234 Insurance Based Memberships were added in March. We are up to 864 total!
- Preferred Trainer revenue in March was \$895. The 5-year average for March is \$748.
- 52 patrons take advantage of our Unlimited Group Fitness pass. These 52 individuals attended a class, on average, 6 times during March. Ellen Schipper took 24 classes and Bev Perilman took 23. Keep up the great work!



Birthday Parties

March Birthday Parties generated \$7,802 in revenue, which is the 3rd highest total revenue in VRC history. The only two times with higher revenue was in 2019 with \$9,392, and 2014 with \$7,988. 42 parties were held in March - 37 Non-Resident, and 5 Resident/Member.

March Senior Incentive Winners -

\$50 Kroger Gift Card

Frank VanNostrand - 16 visits

Marilyn Music - 15 visits

Premier Health

- Upcoming Health Talk - Living Will, May 4, 5:00 PM.
- CPR Training Class - May 6, 10:00 AM. \$50 fee for this class.
- Premier offers glucose and blood pressure screenings the first Wednesday of every month.

SENIOR CENTER



- All preparation to begin eliciting newsletter sponsors is nearly complete. In May, Toni will begin reaching out to the companies she is currently doing business with to give them the first opportunity to secure space in the newsletter to promote the services they offer. With good fortune, we will provide increased brand awareness for our partners, and in doing so, offset the cost to print and mail the newsletter.
- The May Newsletter has been posted online:
<https://vandaliaohio.org/341/Senior-Center>

Making a Difference

Throughout our Department, we often hear folks tell us personal, positive stories about how our facilities, programs and/or services have a profound affect on their life. It is these types of stories that make us proud of the work we do. Below is a brief story Toni shared in her May newsletter.

You never know what is going on in another person's life. A few months ago, a Member told me that the Senior Center saved her life after she lost her husband. This is not the first time a member has said this to me. Probably about one-third of our Members join after a loved one goes into a nursing home or passes. Others have told me they are caregivers and getting away to the Senior Center has helped them keep their sanity. Others have just moved here or gone through a rough time in life. You just never know. Over the years, I have seen so many of you make the effort to talk to a new person at the Center. Some of you have even given the "tour" when I was busy. Many people have told me what a friendly Center we have. Thank you for being such a welcoming group. You never know when you have made someone's day or even saved a life!



In August 2019, the Senior Center reached 738 Members. Since Covid, membership is bouncing back, and there are currently 529 Members!

CASSEL HILLS POOL

- Passes went on sale on Friday, April 15.
- SwimSafe is working diligently to prepare the pool for another season. They are also working hard to secure staff for the season. This year's Pool Manager will be Nathan Mercier.
- Opening Day is set for Saturday, May 28, open 11:30 AM - 7:30 PM.

PARK BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The next in-person Park Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, at 6:30 PM at the Facilities Maintenance Garage. If you have any discussion topics for the May 18 meeting, please let Steve know!