



Directors Report
September 2016

ADMINISTRATION

- Continuing fundraising and planning for the park on the west side of Gahanna
- Developing an RFP for an evaluation of Creekside architectural elements
- RecTrac software upgrade
- 2017 budgeting process and goal planning

PARKS DIVISION

Parks

- Creekside
 - Pedestrian bridge over Mill Race – in planning stages for replacement in fall 2016
 - Planning on dredging the Mill Race
 - Oxbow did bank re-stabilization along the south side of island

Facilities

- Pools
 - Shut down and winterizing GSP
 - Clearing main drain at GSP for better water flow
 - HRP bill begin winterization after Doggie Dip
- Academy Park
 - Field lights – trouble shooting and investigating the breaker box; working with AEP & Jess Howard Electric

RECREATION DIVISION

Senior Center

In 2016, the Active Senior Program at the Gahanna Senior Center has experienced increased involvement amongst our existing membership, as well as growth and expansion amongst new members who have recently joined our Center for the first time.

Senior Membership Growth

Dec 1, 2014 – Nov 30, 2015	430 members
Dec 1, 2015 – August 26, 2016	460 members (we anticipate ~ 500 members in 2016)

Staffing/Volunteers:

- We recently filled a vacancy at our front desk with the new hire of Ms. JoAnn Scarberry.

2016 Program Growth & Improvements:

- The new format of our monthly newsletter "**The Senior Spotlight**" has received great feedback from the membership. The new format was introduced June 2016.
- The **Senior Golf League** has expanded to more than double the size of recent years. In recent years we have approximately 20 golfers enrolled. This year, we had **55 golfers** register in May, and to date we continue to have a strong showing of 35 golfers every Thursday morning. This year we purchased **League Polo Shirts for all golfers** through a sponsor, and also provided a wonderful Mid-year Picnic, also sponsored. Our year-end outing and banquet will be held Thursday September 29th where we will recognize our top golfers by trophy recognition.

- **New classes and special events** being offered include "Game Day", Bocce Club, Garden Club, Birthday Bash, Gahanna Senior walking program at the YMCA, Member Summer BBQ & Concert, Zentangle Art, and some additional painting courses. Lastly, our Yoga Gold classes have grown from 5 -10 participants to 18 - 21 participants each Monday & Friday morning.
- Recent **Facility enhancements** have included the addition of large outdoor planters to beautify the exterior grounds, outdoor picnic table seating, as well as a new interior folding wall. The folding wall was replaced at a cost of \$9,285. The Parks & Rec department and the Senior account of the Parks & Rec Foundation each covered 50% of the cost.
- **Senior Advisory Committee** – The Parks & Recreation Board, the Recreation Admin team, and our Senior Advisory Committee, are currently reviewing and updating our Advisory Committee By-Laws. We are also reviewing the roles of our sub-committees to assist with program growth and development. We hope to have many of these updates completed in Fall 2016.
- **Senior Center Rentals** – Year to date, weekend rentals have added over \$13,000 in additional revenues.

Herb Center Classes

Fundamentals of Home Herbalism is a three month series that will explore body systems and herbal actions, as well as techniques to prepare herbs for use in the home. Begins September 10.

Gahanna Herb Group will be exploring and experimenting with more hands-on techniques in culinary, garden and craft applications of herbs. From September to May students will be learning in-depth profiles of nine individual herbs. Begins September 13.

Herbal Tea Circle

Join us for an informal evening of tea and herbal discussion. We will sample a featured tea or blend, and enjoy light refreshment with an herbal twist, spending the hour discussing whatever herbal topics the group is interested in. Tea circle will meet on the third Thursday of each month. **Thursday, September 15, 7:00 to 8:00p**
Cost: \$7.00 SR \$5 *Gahanna resident*

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

9/11 Walk to Remember

Join us in a special memorial as we remember the events on this day, 15 years ago. The program will begin at 8:30am and the walk will start promptly at 8:46am. The walk includes interpretive signs along the Big Walnut Trail remembering the events of the morning. Donations will be accepted and provided to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum (www.mnational911memorial.org).

Active Senior Expo 2016:

Final plans are being made as we host a Senior Expo on the grounds of the Gahanna Senior Center **Wednesday September 14th 10am-3pm**. We will have 25+ Senior Services vendors, food vendors, live performances, class demonstrations, raffles, and more. Please plan to join us.