



## Monthly Report for: March 2018

**Sevierville**  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
*So much more than a walk in the park.*

### Items from the director's deck.....

#### Ups for the month



- After two years of 'swimming in Federal Highway Red Tape' the Recreation Trails Grant for Extension of the West Prong Greenway on the West Side of the river has been approved.
- WINTERFEST Display take down due to wet wintry weather was not completed until March 18<sup>th</sup>.... the latest date ever.
- Final repairs are being made to the Splash Pad at the Family Aquatics Center.
- Three high schools and numerous middle schools are using our tennis courts for both practice and matches.

#### Not so much an up



- *Spent a great deal of time researching the most "transparent specs as possible for purchasing a mower". However, our gym curtain has failed and I will recommend using the mower funds to purchase a new gym curtain.*
- *We had a private individual operating a private dog training business from our Dog Park. This issue was resolved....*
- *Completed and submitted an Operational Budget for FY 19 about looks as if we may have to do deeper due to the city's debt challenges. If we must go "deeper" facilities, programs and personnel could be affected.*

### Notes/Graphs/Pictures from each division...

**Parks and Recreation:** This division includes but is not limited to: All outdoor parks, greenways and all other city and city contracted properties. This division also includes Winterfest, Beautification and Trees with the primary goal of this division being to provide overall departmental leadership and support plus providing clean, safe and aesthetically pleasing public areas throughout the City of Sevierville.

Yes, it is Officially SPRING.... but Mother Nature has not cooperated. Flowers are in our Greenhouse ready to go!



- Youth baseball and softball began this month, we have over 500 signed up. Let the fun begin.
- We had our first major challenges at the Dog Park this month. First, A person was using the Dog Park Address as a business address on their web site and they were using the Dog Park for K-9 Training. Of course, we addressed this issue and stopped this action immediately. We had two major dog fights from dogs that were just "left" at the Dog Park, this has become a challenge.

**Community Center:** The Community Center is a 43,000-square foot multipurpose building that includes: 10-lane bowling center, 6-lane natatorium, children's programs, gym, two racquetball courts, weight, fitness and spinning room, locker rooms and administrative offices for Community Center Management.

- Two long time part timers had lifetime achievements this month: Lindsey Layman, one of our Lifeguards for a long time; has been accepted to PA school. She will be sadly missed, but will be an amazing PA. Lindsey has been with us for many years! Rebecca Nowack will soon have her Master's Degree. She will stay with us until she lands an excellent job! Rebecca is an amazing young lady as well. We are very proud of these two wonderful employees they certainly will go far in life. It has been our pleasure to have worked with them. They have been part of our life and we wish them both only the best.
- Summer Bowling Events signups are filling up....
- We have agreed to partner with the Sevier County Aquatics Club (Swim Team) to share the cost of new Lane Ropes



**Civic Center:** The Civic Center provides 11,000 square feet of multipurpose public meeting space and rental areas. The Civic Center has two meeting rooms, Council Hall and LeConte Auditorium. Administrative Offices for the entire Parks and Recreation Department.

- Users are now able to rent the Civic Center on line through RECPro.... other facilities will be added to this option soon.

**Other Special Notes or Programs:**

- In the mid 1980's this Weeping Willow Tree was planted soon after Sevierville became a Tree City USA. Over the years, development and the fact that the tree struggled with a tough environment, the tree began to struggle and then became a liability as the top of the tree was dying. The Tennessee Division of Forestry did an assessment of the condition of the Tree and the Trees/Trails and Beautification Board approved removal of this tree along with a replacement tree. This tree and the stump was removed this month. This tree along with all the trees at the corner of Gary Wade Blvd and Bruce Street are on private property and of course with the permission of the property owner. (Danny King) And finally, we will be installing NO DUMPING SIGNS at this site and Solid Waste will not be picking up anything at this site in the future.



- **Arbor Day is Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> at Noon at the Sidney Paul Wade Raingarden next to City Hall. Please attend.**

**End of Report**