



Recreation & Parks *mas* Department Report May 2010

- Seventeen (17) groups used the Hughes Center during April for a total of 218 hours. Events included the River Valley Prevention Coalition, Arkansas Department of Health plumbing recertification, Earth Day events and pARTy in the Park.
- The Parks Commission met on April 13. Business discussed included a request from the farmers market to use City Park as their new location. After discussion, it was decided that having the farmers market in City Park might conflict with park events. The date for the 2010 KidsFest was moved from Sunday, October 31 to Saturday, October 30. The commission felt this would be best for the community. A request to waive fees at the pool for a day in lieu of donations for a charity was rejected. Approval was given to an instructor who will offer belly dance classes at the Hughes Center. Approval was also given to work with the Journey Church on the Fourth of July Celebration.
- There were five incidents of vandalism reported in April. Racially oriented paper stickers are still being stuck to the new play units at City Park. The picture on the sign at Illinois Bayou Park was stolen. A trash can at City Park was taken, the door at Shiloh Park rest rooms was kicked in destroying it and the downspout at the new concession was damaged by someone who drove around the front of the building.
- A staff and safety meeting was held on April 29. The safety topic was tool safety around the jobsite. Several current park projects were also discussed.
- The parking lots at the Arts Center and City Park were overlaid and painted. The bumper blocks will be set at a later date which will complete Capital Project # 16.
- There were three tournaments at Pleasant View and Shiloh Parks in April. The tournaments included the "Battle on the Bayou", the Byrd youth tournament and the youth "Rumble on the River" tournament.
- Illinois Bayou Park was dedicated on April 1 with a large, enthusiastic crowd in attendance. The park is experiencing heavy use already and we have had several compliments on the new facility. Thank you goes out to several people especially Mr. Ron Knost.
- There were thirteen pavilion reservations in the month of April. City Park pavilion has become the most reserved pavilion due to the renovations and the addition of the two new playground structures.
- Hickey Park lighting which was Capital Project # 13 has been completed. The project updated the light levels by replacing lights on Fields 2, 3 & 4 and adding new lights to Field 5.
- The official ribbon cutting for all the renovations at Hickey Park was held on the April 26 at 5:15pm. The ribbon was cut by Findley and Logan Golden.
- The lights and sprinkler systems were completed on Hickey Park Field 7.
- The soccer complex maintenance building Capital Project # 20 was started. The excavation work and footings have been poured.
- The R.Y.B.A. began their league play on April 12 at Hickey Park on Fields 5 and 7. The rest of the leagues begin play on April 19.
- The three parking lots, the concession area and the roadway to the high school at Hickey Park were overlaid and painted. New handicapped parking signs and bumper blocks were also added which completed Capital Project # 23.
- Preparation has begun for opening of M.J. Hickey Pool for the 2010 summer season. The pool is scheduled to open Memorial Day weekend.
- Work has begun on the Historic Tree Park Trail at Pleasant View Park. Help with the project is coming from the Boy Scouts with an Eagle Scout project by Barton and Ru Massey. The trail will greatly enhance the beauty of the area around the fishing derby pond and Lake Dardanelle.