Director's Report
May 2022

Riverfront Project

- We were notified by the WDNR that our Municipal Flood Control grant has been tentatively awarded $225,000. This is for the millpond restoration. This is the final grant that was programmed (counting on) into the CIP for Phase II.
- We had a staff meeting with Mason Lacy from REP on May 11th to go over design changes along with 2D hydraulic modeling (how the water will flow through the park). He is attending the steering committee meeting on May 16th to cover the changes.
- Met with Roger Springman from RDA and others to discuss interpretive signage along the riverfront and RDA development.
- I ordered the bench frames for the riverwalk. Volunteers from Cummins will be staining 'treecycled' wood for them. I'm working with the contractor to get the stain for the light pole timbers so the benches match.

Mandt Park

- We were notified by the EDA that our grant application was not selected. They do not have an award list at this time. The EDA staff member that I was working with told me it was hyper competitive. They could only fund 20% of the projects that were submitted. The program was open to state, local, and non-profits, so it's difficult to determine which projects were funded without the award list.
- I had a meeting on April 21st with Alliant Energy about the easement (which has to be called a license due to the land being encumbered by a previous federal grant). They are going to stake the route at Mandt Park in May which will identify where the gas line would go and the planned improvements.
- I submitted the grant application for the WDNR Outdoor Recreation Aid program.

Virgin Lake Trail

- We had the kick-off meeting for the Virgin Lake Trail project with MSA. They are starting the design work for the trail. The next step is to review the 60% design when it is completed.

51 West Master Plans

- We had the kick-off meeting for the master plans. There will be a community survey, focus groups, a pop-up booth at Taste of Stoughton, and a public meeting in July for the public input process. The consultant will be attending the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting once the concepts are developed and then again when the draft master plan is completed.
- I reviewed the survey and suggested edits to the consultant.
- I scheduled the survey to be sent out on Sunday, May 15 at 7:00 pm. This is a high traffic time for people to be on their computers/tablets/phones. The survey was also posted to our Facebook page.

Recreation & Youth Center

- The kitchen remodel has started. The general contractor pulled the existing cabinets and found that there was no flooring installed under them. The areas under the cabinets will be patched with new hardwood flooring and the existing flooring will get refinished as well so everything

matches. Additionally, we decided to replace the laminate flooring with new hardwood flooring. This will allow for easier maintenance and will look better aesthetically. The Friends of the Youth Center treasurer and I decided to build-in a pretty large contingency into the budget because of the building's age and how it was remodeled.

- I wrote the 2022 Bryant Foundation grant applications for the Youth Center Staff/Friends of the Stoughton Area Youth Center.
- I attended the FSAYC meeting on May 12th.

Misc.

- The River and Trails Taskforce's Earth Day Cleanup was a success. We had about 30 volunteers show up to the clean-up and they bagged enough trash to fill up a bed of a pickup truck.
- I attended the City's job fair on April 23rd.
- We continue to not receive any applications for the Rec Assistant position. In addition, there has been a lack of a front desk worker at City Hall that has caused the Recreation Supervisor to be pulled from his work responsibilities. We are a small department and understaffed, so when we don't have a position filled it takes a toll on us. Things are not getting done or are behind schedule because of this. For example, the Dunkirk Park Master Plan work has been put on hold until at least the fall now because I don't have someone to delegate lower level responsibilities to. I would have been able to delegate most of the community garden work to the Rec Assistant, but I was not able to. Additionally, sending mailed letters to neighbors of the east 51 West park would be something that we would usually do. We don't have the administrative support staff to do this right now. Due to workload (trying to make up for lack of staff), I have carried over vacation the last four years. I currently have 277 hours of vacation in my leave balance and we're in the middle of May.
- I attended City Council on April 26th for the WDNR grant application, vacating the mini park at Nordic Ridge, and accepting the grant funds for the trails in Phase II of the riverfront project.
- I worked with the contractor for Nordic Ridge so that the trail work extending west out of the park would also extend to the electrical panel for ADA compliance. This was agreed to last year with the developer.