

BYRON PARK DISTRICT

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Mary Poppins Performance
July 2022

INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

The Byron Park District's 2022 Annual Report provides highlights of the District's activities, accomplishments, and finances throughout the past year. The financial data provided in this report was drawn from the 2022 Annual Financial Report, which can be viewed online at www.byronparks.org. Questions or feedback regarding the 2022 Annual Report or 2022 Annual Financial Report may be directed to Executive Director, Paul Zepezauer at pzepezauer@byronparks.org.

The Byron Park District was established in 1980 at the same time as the Byron Forest Preserve. While the two entities work together, they are completely separate entities. The Park District focuses on offering neighborhood parks and recreation programs to the community. The Forest Preserve focuses on preservation, education and outdoor recreation.

The Park District primarily operates within the Byron School District facilities. Through an Intergovernmental Agreement, the Park District is able to offer recreation programs and facilities to the community utilizing the School District's facilities. The Park District contributes to capital improvements to the recreation facilities.

Park District operations are primarily funded by revenue generated through program fees, tax dollars, grants, sponsorships, and interest. These funds provide for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities and recreation programs. The Park District's taxing district follows the School District's boundaries with the exception of Constellation Energy's Byron Generating Station.

A board of five elected commissioners set policy and carry out the official business of the Park District. Park District Commissioners serve six-year terms, without pay. The Executive Director, who is hired by the Board, manages the day-to-day operations of the Park District and oversees a staff of approximately 6 full time and 65 part time employees.

Regularly scheduled Park District Board Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Byron PE Center at 6:00 PM, unless otherwise noted. The most up to date Board Meeting schedule may be found on our website, www.byronparks.org. The public is invited to attend and may address the Board during the public comment portion of the meeting.

MISSION

"To enhance the quality of life within our community by providing parks, recreational facilities and recreational program opportunities in a fun, safe and fiscally responsible manner."



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



JEFF WILMARTH
President



SCOTT JEFFREY
Vice President



RACHEL ORACKI
Treasurer



JUDD GRIFFITH
Secretary



BRUCE BOYLE
Commissioner

PARKS & FACILITIES



Blackhawk Meadow Park

In 2001, Byron Park District purchased 9.38 acres of land on Mill Road for the first park in the District's history. Amenities within the park include: two backstops, two permanent Bag Game sets, large picnic pavilion, and four outdoor fitness equipment stations located along a 1/3 mile perimeter walking path. Blackhawk Meadow Park is an on-leash dog friendly park.



Byron PE Center

The original Byron PE Center was a shared facility constructed in 1996 for the School District and the Park District. The original building included two fitness rooms, an aerobics room, indoor track and four basketball courts. In 2020, the Byron Park District completed a 14,660 square foot facility expansion featuring a 6,000 square foot fitness center, two 1,800 square foot dance/aerobics studios, a centralized lobby and registration area, a Park District staff office area, and a parking lot addition. Renovations were also completed in the adjacent interior hallways and locker rooms.



Donald B. Johnson Riverfront Park

Donald B. Johnson Riverfront Park was acquired in 2019 through a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. The park is currently 10 acres of undeveloped riverfront property. The future plans are to develop the property through the State of Illinois Open Space and Land Acquisition grant program.



Hamas Park

In 2014, ownership of Hamas Park was transferred to the Park District. In 2017, the park was completely regraded and now has a new playground, boat docks, kayak launch, shelter, parking lot, walking trails, landscaping, and site furnishings.



Joe Parks Athletic Complex/ Tennis & Pickleball Courts

The Joe Parks Athletic Complex is owned by the Byron School District. The Park District utilizes the baseball/softball diamonds and a wide variety of soccer fields to provide youth athletic camps and leagues to the community. The complex also has a concession stand, covered dugouts, playground, restrooms, and a shelter. The Tennis and Pickleball Courts are located behind the PE Center on Maple Street.



Tiger Town Park

In 2014, ownership of Tiger Town Park was transferred to the Park District. This park features an inclusive playground, zip line play unit, Dynamo swings, bocce ball court, full-sized basketball court, and a game plaza with permanent ping pong and chess tables.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Conservation and Resiliency

Through effective land management methods and green infrastructure investments, parks and recreation make communities more resilient to natural disasters, reducing disaster recovery and insurance costs.

Health and Wellness

Parks & Recreation promotes improved physical and mental health, which helps lower medical and insurance costs for those people taking advantage of facilities and activities.

Property Values

Economic research has demonstrated consistently that homes and properties located near parklands have higher values than those further away.

Visitor Spending

Park visits and recreation programs such as athletic leagues and tournaments, dance recitals, special events, and theatre performances generate economic activity including increased sales at gas stations, grocery stores, and restaurants.

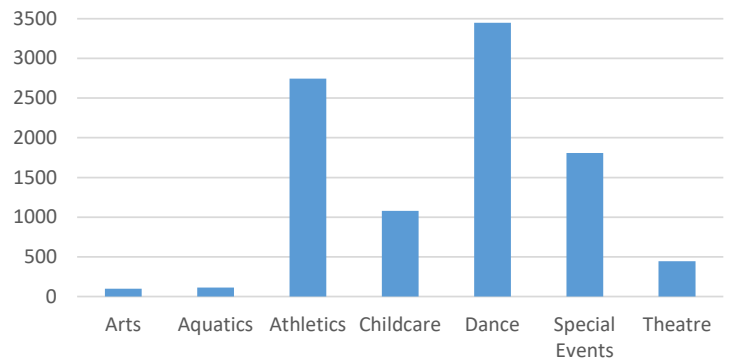
FACILITY USAGE

MEMBERSHIPS ISSUED.....	847
PUNCH CARDS SOLD.....	361
DROP INS.....	5,932
TOTAL FITNESS VISITS.....	53,750



RECREATION PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

ARTS.....	101
AQUATICS.....	115
ATHLETICS.....	2,746
CHILD CARE.....	1,079
DANCE.....	3,448
SPECIAL EVENTS.....	1,807
THEATRE.....	446



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENT

The Byron Park District has been recognized as an Illinois Distinguished Accredited Agency by the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). This program gives recognition to park and recreation agencies that go above and beyond in dedicating themselves to offering quality programs and services designed to fulfill their community's needs



2022 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Donald B. Johnson Riverfront Park Improvements

A new playground and poured in place surfacing was installed. Civil, Electrical and Site engineering plans were completed in anticipation of 2023 construction.

Fitness Equipment

A new rower was purchased for the cardio area. New dumbbells and a smith machine and bench were purchased for the free weight area. A new Evolt body composition scanner was purchased for members, personal training clients and group challenge participants. New bands, dumbbells, exercise mats, and kettlebells were purchased for the group fitness classes.

Technology Improvements

Network monitoring systems were installed to improve network security. New on premise and cloud based back up systems were installed.

Theatre Equipment

Eight secondary spotlight fixtures were purchased for the Byron Middle School Theatre.

2022 REVENUES & EXPENSES

2022 Revenues

TAXES
\$1,454,215

The Park District receives less than 6% of the total property tax levied on Byron property owners.

CHARGES FOR SERVICES
\$947,991

The Byron Park District offers over 300 recreation programs in the areas of athletics, aquatics, child care, fitness, cultural arts, & special events.

OTHER INCOME
\$1,297,574

Other income is comprised of bond issues, grant proceeds, debt certificates, insurance reimbursements, and miscellaneous revenues.

INTEREST INCOME
\$14,205

Interest earned on invested District funds.

TOTAL REVENUES
\$3,713,985

2022 Expenses

GENERAL GOVERNMENT
\$388,061

The administrative and maintenance cost of operating the District and its parks.

RECREATION
\$1,055,501

The cost to operate the District's recreation facilities and programs.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
\$405,404

The cost of the 2022 capital improvement projects.

DEBT SERVICE
\$1,326,180

Debt service pays the principle and interest payments, along with issuance costs for bonds and debt certificates sold on behalf of the District to fund capital projects

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$3,175,146