RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Monday, 13 January 2020
Submitted by John D. Kuhn, Park and Programs Director

Red Hook Rod & Gun Club Fishing Contest
Pete Heitman will present a proposal for the 2020 fishing contest. Because of all the construction at the park, it may be necessary to cancel or to modify the fishing contest to assure the safety of all participants. I do not know when the restrooms will be renovated or when the blacktop paths at the playground and through the park will be done. This will have to be thought through carefully to avoid problems.

RHCSD Use of Softball and Baseball Fields
The uncertainty of when the park will be safely available for use may impact the interscholastic spring softball and baseball practices and games. I have notified Tom Cassata, athletic director of this possibility.

Turco Golf, Inc. & All-Purpose Field
Turco has been working throughout this winter. At present the south end of the park is completely closed. The park is a major work area with nearly everything torn up. 40,000 cubic yards of topsoil from the middle field is piled in the bus parking area of the south parking lot.

The excavation part of the project appears to be over. The drainage system under the field is installed. Layers of fabric and stone will be the next phase.

South Parking Lot Blacktop
The heavy equipment has damaged the blacktop in the south parking lot. To be fair the blacktop was just one binder coat of less than three inches thick in rather poor condition. Damage to the parking lot was probably unavoidable.

Attached to this report is the letter received from Turco that addresses the parking lot damage.

2019 OCFS Year-End Report

Pickleball Court Lighting
When the six telephone pole were removed from the middle field this, two of them snapped and the other four are in poor condition. They will not be suitable for lighting on the pickleball courts.

Revamping of Electrical Service
Hitchcock Electric has completed the updating and renovation of the electrical service in the Snack Bar Storage Room to accommodate the new Musco LED lighting on the Middle Field. Find attached a photograph of the new panels and timers. The wires coming out of the floor in the photo are for the new field lights. A separate panel will be installed for these lights in the space above the pipe.

North Parking Lot – Main Service Line
The new power line runs along the southern edge of the parking lot. Cars insist on parking off the blacktop directly over the service line. I am told that this may cause the new line to fail over time. Perhaps the four telephone poles can be placed as a barrier to prevent cars from parking over the power line??
Wooden Posts by Pool Parking Lot
This temporary fencing consists wooden posts drilled to allow nylon cord to connect the posts. This prevents pool users from entering or exiting the park in any spot other than the DCDOT designated spot on Linden Avenue. We will replace the wooden post with metal one this spring because the wooden post are broken off and require constant repair. We will use the metal posts saved from the middle field. When Turco removed the heavy duty vertical posts from the middle field, I selected 20 of the best and cut them to six feet. These will be drilled, painted white, three levels of rope will be threaded through the holes, poles will be placed 10 feet apart, and NO EXIT signs will be mounted on four of the posts.

Skate Park Improvements
Upgrades to the Skate Park Equipment are planned for 2020. The American Ramp Company that designed, built and installed the existing skate park is once again developing a proposal for the guidelines outlined with Chris Hoffman who owns the Board Shop in the village. We should receive this information along with costs shortly.

Recreation Park West Development
Fastracs has made major progress on the site. The drawings are available for review. Work will begin again in the spring. There will be no play on this field in 2020.

John Deere 4120
The repair of the tractor at Keil Equipment Company in Hudson is complete. When I picked up the tractor with the Highway Department, Mike Miller noticed that two bolts for the drive shaft cover were missing. On Christmas Eve Howie Callies and I reinstalled the backhoe. There was a hydraulic leak somewhere in the engine compartment that I could not locate. I asked Jeff Tremper and Joe Coon to inspect the tractor to locate the leak and to confirm that the backhoe was installed properly. The leak was a power steering hose that only leaked when under pressure. It has been replaced.
While greasing the tractor they discovered that only three bolts of the four required had been installed in the hitch that supports the backhoe. These were the same bolts that were missing from the original installation four years ago and probably the cause of the bolts breaking.
I called Kim Keil to express my concern over this obvious oversight. He assured me that he would pass along my concern to Keils in Hudson.
This is the third problem we have had with major mechanical repairs with Keil Equipment. In the future we may have to consider another dealer for major repairs.
Not having the tractor loader/backhoe available for use at the Recreation Park and at the Red Church Cemetery for three months was most inconvenient. We were forced to use the much smaller John Deere 670 when doing tree work and moving material. Some of the planned work on the track was postponed because we did not have the JD4120.
Storage Barn Light Fixtures
Some of the fluorescent fixtures need new ballasts and/or bulbs. I would prefer to replace the T-11’s with LED Daylight Tubes, but we will have to see where we stand with the budget since these lights cost $25.00 apiece. LED bulbs provide better light and are not affected by cold temperatures like fluorescents bulbs in addition to being less expensive to operate. It may be wiser to replace the existing fixtures with new LED fixtures as we did in the men’s restroom. LED fixtures have diodes not bulbs and supposedly last forever.
I will install an LED motion security light above the overhead door of the storage barn. The current light no longer operates despite having a new bulb, and a new sensor for that model is unavailable.

Parking Lot Lights
These lights have always stayed on all year. Is this something that should continue?

Summer Recreation Playground
The hiring of a director and assistants for this program must begin now. The Board of Health requirements must be addressed early as well. If Ari Spiesberger is unavailable for this summer and Leslie Martin decides not to return, we will be back to the desperate situation we were in last year. Running this program has become much more complicated and demanding.

2020 Recreation Commission Meeting Dates
Find attached the list of meeting dates and times for the 2020 meetings at the town hall. It may be wise to schedule a meeting at the Recreation Park to look at the various projects.

2020 Recreation Commission Member List
Please update the personal information on this list. It is a required document by Dutchess County OCFS.

Director’s Report for 9 December 2019
Find attached the Director’s Report from the cancelled 9 December 2019 Recreation Commission meeting.

Town of Red Hook Website
In the 21st Century we need to have instant communication with parents and the community at large. For the summer programs we need to have notifications in real time through the Town of Red Hook website. This will be set up in the very near future.
On-Line Signups is also a 21st Century necessity. This will also have to be developed through the Town of Red Hook website. There will probably have to be two signup days for those without computer access, but that will involve only a few folks. The logistics of creating hard copies for each program director will have to be worked out.

Basketball Court Markings &Colors
The options for the basketball court markings must be selected. Find attached the different options. I have a recommendation for the markings and for the colors to discuss.