



Thornton Recreation Department Annual Report 2014-15



Mission Statement:

To provide quality recreation programs, facilities, and parks that meet the leisure needs and improve the quality of life for the residents of Thornton.

2014-15 Thornton Recreation Department Personnel

Director of Parks and Recreation

Sharlee Dunlop

Assistant Director

Amy Potwin

Building Attendant/Front Desk Personnel

Mary Vasquez

Jennifer Shadley

Nerissa Major

Dallas Swan

Victoria Frederick

Melissa Gesswein

Preschool Instructors

Amy Potwin

Jennifer Shadley

Melissa Gesswein

2 Young Instructors

Mary Vasquez

Rebecca Houts

Fitness and Sport Instructors

Monica Villanueva

Richard Kingery

Beatrice Orendorff

Kristen Plugge

Dan Howard

Camp Coordinators

Kristin Payne

Dallas Swan

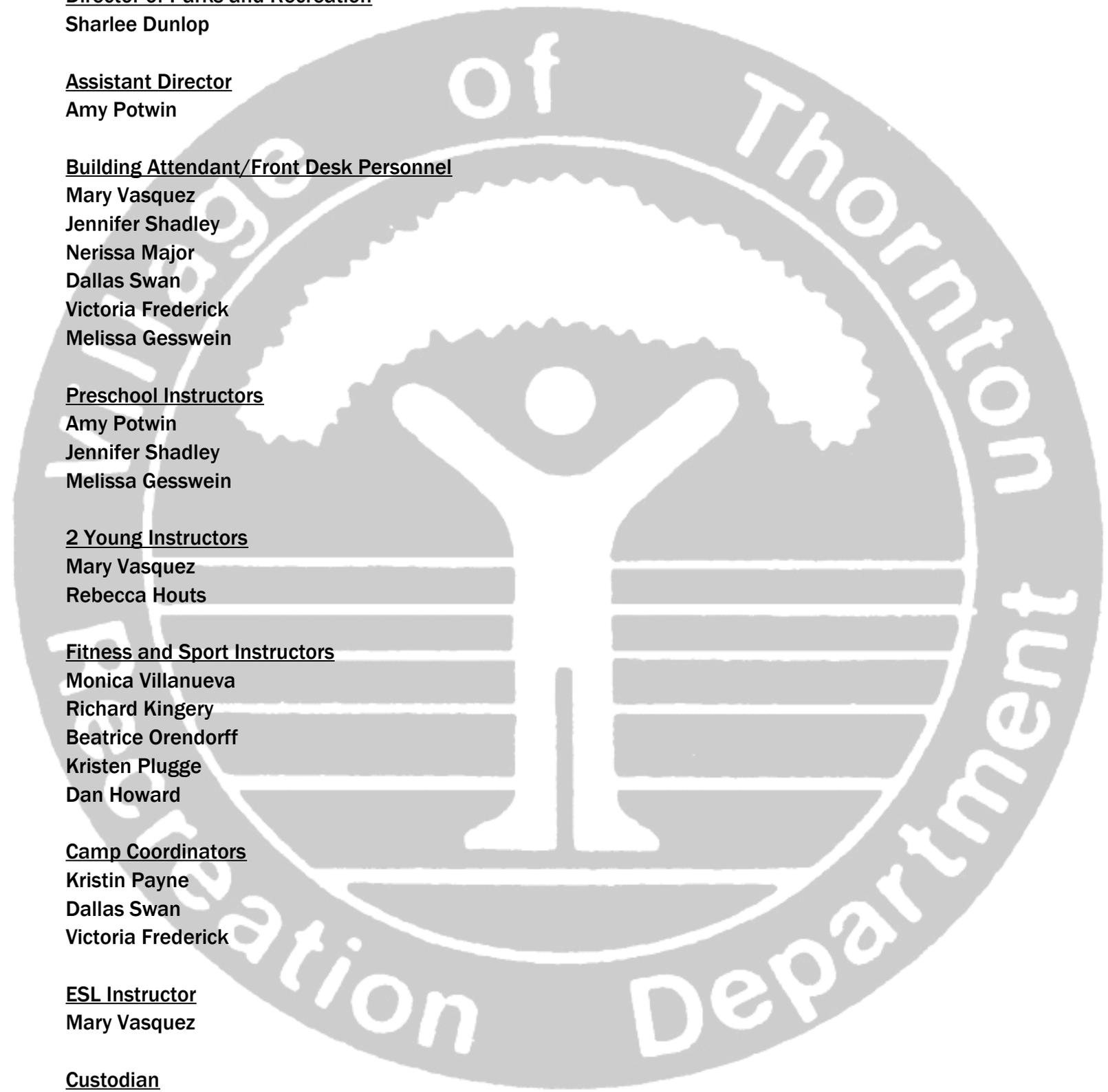
Victoria Frederick

ESL Instructor

Mary Vasquez

Custodian

Richard Kingery



2014-15 Thornton Recreation Department Accomplishments

- Generated over \$44,000 in revenue.
- Maintained park equipment and safety surfacing of all parks.
- Completed another successful year of the Preschool program for ages 2-5. Approximately 30 students at 90% resident ratio.
- Implemented English as a Second Language (ESL) program for Spanish-speaking parents to better communicate with other parents and educators.
- Implemented several new youth programs including: Teen Fitness, Nerf Wars, Movie Days, Nail Party, Mad Scientists and more.
- Replaced 60 dilapidated folding chairs and several card tables.
- Purchased new activity tables and chairs for the preschool program.
- Updated front desk computer and monitor.
- Purchased 2 new commercial cardio machines for the fitness center.
- Organized and managed the 8th Annual Market in the Park participation and completed another successful season. Purchased all new coordinated signage.
- Upgraded safety lighting in the All Purpose Room.
- Continued to maintain beautification project on the corner of Williams and Eleanor.
- Established a revenue generating recycling program with US Again.
- Continued to offer free community programs for residents.
- Evaluated and redesigned many aspects to improve daily operations, including the addition of a credit card machine.
- Continued to sort and properly dispose of worn out equipment and inoperative electronics.
- Coordinated with School District 154 to provide integrated social and occupational services and speech therapy to resident youth.
- Maintained a helpful and friendly team of employees who continue to prove their loyalty, dependability and commitment to the recreational needs of the community.

2015-16 Thornton Recreation Department Goals

- Increase revenue.
- Continue to offer the existing successful programs.
- Continue to maintain all park equipment with ADA compliance. Add/Replace additional ADA compliant equipment to all parks.
- Continue to fundraise through the Funding Factory for a splash and spray pad at Nason Park.
- Continue to re-evaluate all aspects of operation and weed out more inoperative equipment, paperwork and electronics.
- Continue to update and improve the appearance of the Community Center.
- Motivate and advertise in an attempt to increase participation, revenue and health.
- Continue increasing program participation by implementing more fall and winter programs.
- Utilize the facility more during school breaks.
- Improving existing programs, field trips and events.

- Replace timeworn rental tables.
- Update equipment, play areas and electronics for the Preschool program.
- Install cameras in the Fitness Center for the safety of our members.
- Update window treatments in the Preschool and All Purpose room.
- Increase customer and vendor participation at the Market in the Park.
- Improve quality of our Fitness Center by purchasing new treadmill.
- Continue to design and edit the quarterly newsletter in coordination with the Deputy Clerk.
- Get more involved with the community by hosting free family events that utilize the existing parks and equipment available to them.
- Update and beautify the picnic areas, tables and benches of Hubbard, Nason, Diekelman and Mikrut parks.

Recreation Department Program Descriptions

- **Preschool:** Offered to resident and non-resident children ages 3-5 years of age. Operated Monday through Friday August through May. This program continued to thrive with a combined number of 26 students this year. Approximately 90% of the students are village residents. This program generated over \$16,500 in revenue. We have implemented new screenings and services for residents that will attend Wolcott School. We have coordinated social services, speech and occupational therapy for the students in need. An open line of communication and good working relationship with Wolcott School will benefit our residents. We were able to better organize this program by hiring an aid to help manage bathroom breaks, projects and snack time assistance.
- **2 Young 2 Go to Preschool:** Offered to resident and non-resident toddlers 2-3 years of age. Class operated Monday, Wednesday and Friday; August through May. We consistently have between 5 and 10 students in this class with 95% resident participation.
- **Jujitsu/Self Defense:** Offered to residents and non-residents ages 5 and up. This martial arts program operates all year round on Tuesday and Thursday evenings as well as Saturday mornings. We currently maintain 6-15 participants consistently. This program thrives during the colder months when participants are looking for indoor activities. Approximately 65% of the participants are village residents. The Self-Defense portion runs one Thursday each month and is now FREE to all women 14 and older. We hope to generate more interest in both portions in the coming fall months.
- **Zumba with Bea/Kristen:** Offered to residents and non-residents ages 16 and up. This dance exercise program operates Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings in six or four-week sessions. This program enrollment has decreased in participation. Monday's class is more successful. We continue to advertise and offer specials and hope this program will increase interest.
- **Zumbatomic:** Offered to residents and non-residents ages 5-12. This program is a youth Zumba class offered on Thursday evenings in four week sessions. This has been very successful with an average of 12-20 students per session. 85% of participants are village residents.
- **Yoga fit:** Offered to residents and non-residents ages 16 and up for 8 FREE sessions. This NEW program got off to a great start but, as expected, enrollment declined, during warmer weather. The participants were surveyed and we intend to offer it this fall in six or eight week sessions.

- **K-9 Obedience by Mickey:** Offered year round to residents and non-residents since 1984! Dog obedience training program operates as an independent contracted rental program and meets every Friday evening as well as one Wednesday a month.
- **Softball:** Offered to local teams ages 16 and up. We currently have seven teams playing on Monday nights. We also have the field rented to several other teams for seasonal fees.
- **Fitness Center:** Offered year round to residents and non-residents. Participants can lift weights and use our fitness center during normal business hours. These rooms generated over \$3200.00 this year. Approximately 85% of the participants are village residents. The budget allowed for us to purchase a new treadmill and a new elliptical to replace older dilapidated models that were out of order. The Fitness Center machines have all been cleaned and serviced. We have contracted a maintenance company to perform this service bi-annually. We will continue to update and maintain equipment as needed. This year the Fitness Center revenue increased by \$1200.00.
- **Rentals:** Facility rentals include the ball fields at Hubbard Park, Community Center All Purpose Room, Lounge, Conference Room and Game Room. All facilities are offered to residents for a small fee and non-residents for a larger fee. Table/Chairs and Park Pavilion rentals are available to village residents only. First aid equipment is available free to residents only. These services generate over \$5000 per year. Improvements to our facility will continue to generate more revenue. Rental Revenue increased by \$2600.00 this year. We would like to refresh paint in the general hallway areas and the All Purpose Room. Normal wear and tear has taken a toll on the facility. We have purchased tables to be used on premise and replaced numerous folding chairs. We plan to replace the 16 year old rental tables that have been over used and damaged.

More Seasonal Programs

- Market in the Park
- Co-Ed Softball Leagues
- Teen Fitness and Conditioning
- Holiday Happenings Event & Meetings
- Knee High Summer Camp
- Field Trip/Summer Camp
- FREE ESL classes
- Mad Scientist class
- Nail Party
- Teen Movie
- Nerf Wars
- FREE Yoga fit
- Open Gym and Game room days
- Spring Break Boredom Busters
- Young Rembrandts Art Class
- Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt
- Little Ones Egg Hunt
- Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt
- Little Ones Pumpkin Hunt

- Senior Bingo Luncheon
- Hand and Foot Card club
- Wee Play Sports
- Dodgeball and Scooters
- Senior Pinochle
- First Aid, CPR and Babysitting Certification

Community Awareness Programs

- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Group meets every Monday evening all year.
- A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) Group meets every week.
- Girl Scouts/Brownies/Daisies. Group meets throughout the school year on various nights.
- Community Garden Meetings.
- P.T.A. Group meets one Friday each month all year.
- Memorial Tree Project – as requested.

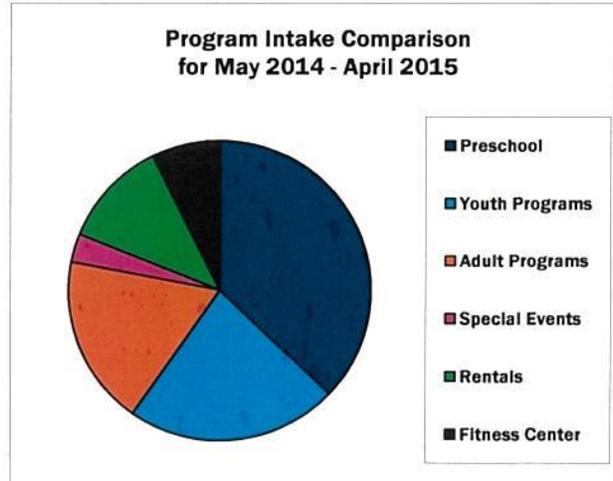
Upcoming

- Review surfaces and replace any mulch/sand in our parks.
- Replace broken tunnels at Diekelman Park.
- Remove Sand Box at Mikrut Park.
- Super Saturdays.
- Offer and implement more end of summer and fall activities for residents.
- Maintain the corner of Eleanor and Williams.
- Maintain a successful Market season.
- Gear up for Preschool open houses & new students. (Our preschool registration is full for August.)



Recreation Program Intake Comparison

Program Type	Approx. Intake
Preschool	\$16,646.00
Youth Programs	\$10,164.00
Adult Programs	\$8,215.00
Special Events	\$1,400.00
Rentals	\$5,185.00
Fitness Center	\$3,282.00
	\$44,892.00



Program Type	Approx. Intake
Preschool	\$26,246.00
Youth Programs	\$8,624.00
Adult Programs	\$12,370.00
Special Events	\$623.00
Rentals	\$2,519.00
Fitness Center	\$2,010.00
	\$52,392.00

