

Anderson Park District

For immediate release.

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Executive Director, Molly McClure, has resigned her position with the Anderson Township Park District, effective July 31, 2007. Ms. McClure, a Certified Park Professional, will pursue other exciting career opportunities outside of the Anderson Township Park District.

Currently, Mr. Ken Kushner, the Director of Operations, will serve as the interim Executive Director. Mr. Kushner is a Purdue University graduate, an Anderson Township resident, and has been with the Park District for 14 years. With Ms. McClure's assistance, the Park Commissioners are confident the Park District will continue to succeed during this period of transition. The Board of Commissioners intends to promptly initiate a process to institute a broad search for the next Executive Director of the Anderson Township Park District.

Ms. McClure has served the Anderson Township Park District and the community with distinction. Under her leadership during the last 24 years, the services and facilities provided by the Park District to the community have vastly expanded in both quality and scope. Her vision, energy and dedication to the Park District will be greatly missed by the Park District and the community at large.

Ms. McClure stated:

I have spent the last 24 years of my life as a park professional, promoting and diligently working to improve the Anderson Park District. When you put in the time to raise and nurture anything, the last thing you want is for any harm to come its way. That is the way I feel about the Anderson Park District. I am proud of the accomplishments that we've made over the last 24 years.

I have enjoyed all of the associations with fellow employees, past and present Park District Commissioners, Boosters/Partners and the Anderson Community at large. I hope to continue to work for and improve the community that I have been privileged to serve for the past 30+ years. I am grateful to all of my colleagues in the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association and the National Recreation and Parks Association for giving me the tools and information we needed to make the APD what it is today.

Some of the accomplishments that I led with my team during my tenure with the Anderson Park District include:

Purchase of Beech Acres Park,

Acquisition/Purchase/management of Johnson Park

Acquisition/Development of Kellogg Park, home of the award winning Dog Field

Development of Juilfs Park including Playground, Hike/Bike Trail, Playing Fields, Tennis Courts and Shelters

Redevelopment of Veterans Park including the recent redevelopment of the new playground.

Infrastructure improvements at all of the Park facilities

Redevelopment of Laverty Park

The acquisition/development of two Bicentennial Parks, Clear Creek and Riverside Parks.

The acquisitions in partnership with the Hamilton County Park District for Broadwell Woods and a portion of Johnson Park.

The management details involving the Heritage Center

The development of Anderson Days and many other community programs and events.

Development of Beech Acres Park including Skate Park, Hike/Bike Trail, Playing Fields, Amphitheater, and the new All-Children's Playground. I am especially proud of the results at Beech Acres as it is the park closest to my home in Anderson Township within easy walking distance.

I was instrumental in the development of Strategic Partnerships to assist with the funding of Park Services to decrease the dependency of the APD budget on taxpayers dollars. Through various means including extensive work on grant seeking, over 40% of the budget is derived outside of taxes.

I am particularly proud of our partnerships with Beech Acres Parenting Center, The Jason William Hunt Foundation, Leap Beyond Therapy and the Youth Sports Organizations because all are geared at positive youth development for our community. Our strong supportive partnerships with Anderson Township, the Anderson Senior Center and the Hamilton County Park District have been important in allowing the APD to achieve its mission.

I am proud of all of our accomplishments. My greatest desire is that District continues to uphold the reputation that it has earned over the last 24 years as the outstanding park system it has become. I wish nothing but the best for the new administration and will be cheerleading from the sidelines that they will be able to continue to grow and keep pace with the demands of providing essential Parks and Recreation services. I also hope that our community will continue to invest its resources in these vital services because it is important to our well-being.

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