



NDRPA ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Advancing parks, recreation and conservation
for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota

Year In Review

NDRPA was actively engaged in the 2017 **State Legislative Session**, although it was a challenging session due to the significant state revenue shortfall. The association worked successfully with other political subdivisions to oppose bills that negatively impacted park districts, such as budget caps. NDRPA filled Memorial Hall with exhibits showcasing the value and benefits of parks and recreation in March during **Parks Day at the Capitol**, held in partnership with the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD).

The **Certified Playground Safety Inspector Course** was held in Bismarck in March for the 15th year. The North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF) and NDPRD sponsored the training.

NDRPA co-hosted the sixth annual **North Dakota Trails Conference** with NDPRD in August at Lake Metigoshe State Park.

The annual **State Conference** with the theme “Where the Fun Begins” was hosted by Mandan Parks and Recreation District in September.

The following NDRPA **awards** were presented: Golden Egg - Gaukler Family Wellness Center, Valley City Parks and Recreation; Innovative Programming - Nerf Wars, Williston Parks and Recreation District; Citizen Advocacy - Chris Johnson, Bowman; Outstanding Young Professional - Jahna Gardiner, Bismarck Parks and Recreation District; Dr. LaVernia Jorgensen Memorial Professional Development Award - Jill Nelson, Grand Forks Park District; and Dr. Sandra Modisett Memorial Scholarship - Aimee Padgett (NDSU) and Krystal Wold (NDSU).

A new mobile-friendly website was designed at www.ndrpa.com.

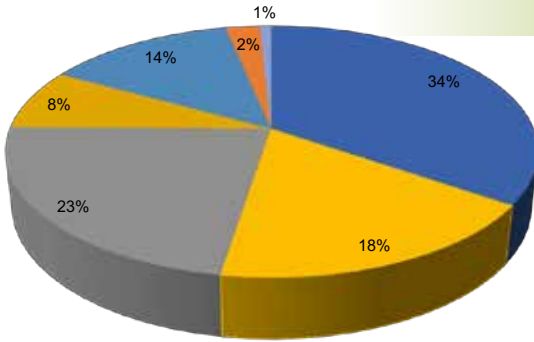
With support from NDIRF, the **North Dakota Park Board Manual** was updated for release in January 2018 and a summer 2018 training webinar for park board commissioners is planned.

NDRPA continued its **publications**, the monthly electronic *NDRPA eUpdate* and the quarterly magazine *FOCUS*.

Membership

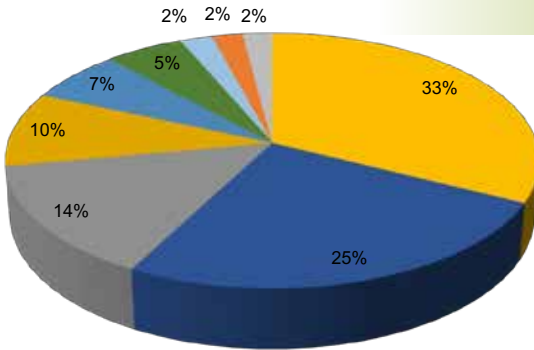
Agencies	72
Professionals	233
Board Members	350
Allied Organizations	7
Universities/Colleges	1
Students	2
Lifetime	7
Commercial	14
Affiliate	4
Total	690

Financials



Revenue \$120,975.18

- State Conference
- CPSI Course
- Membership
- Publication Advertising
- Workshops & Meetings
- Special Projects
- Miscellaneous



Expenses \$117,240.01

- Executive Director Services
- State Conference
- CPSI Course
- Workshops & Meetings
- Office & General
- Publications
- Travel & Meetings
- Special Projects
- Awards & Scholarships

Legislative Platform

NDRPA believes public investment in parks and recreation is necessary to achieve positive economic, health, environmental and social/community benefits for all North Dakotans. Parks and recreation are essential public services and a valuable part of community infrastructure.

Economic

- Attracts businesses and workforce
- Creates employment opportunities
- Attracts visitors
- Increases property values

Environmental

- Purifies the air and water
- Manages stormwater
- Provides habitat for animals, fish and birds
- Connects children and adults with nature

Health

- Improves physical, mental and social wellbeing
- Reduces health care costs
- Provides alternative and active transportation opportunities

Social/Community

- Creates community image and sense of place
- Increases social connections and learning
- Offers safe, affordable and accessible spaces

Leadership 2016-2017

Board of Directors

Bob Gillen, President
Craig Bjur, Past President
George Hellyer, President Elect
Kevin Klipfel, Secretary/Treasurer
James Kramer, Public Policy Chair
Ashley Krasicki, External Affairs Chair
Amber Mathieson, Internal Affairs Chair

Councils & Task Forces

Hall of Fame Council - Randy Bina, Chair
Park Board Manual and Training Task Force - James Kramer, Chair
Track Meet Task Force - Jeff Heisler, Chair

Affiliate Liaisons

Midwest Rep - Darin Krueger
North Dakota Missouri River Advisory Council - Randy Bina
North Dakota Community Forestry Council - Dave Leker
North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board - Randy Bina

Staff

Dana Schaar Jahner, Executive Director, Clearwater Communications
Shannon Schutt, Communication Specialist, Clearwater Communications



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