

Date: July 11, 2023

To: Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Cc: Ryan O'Connor, County Manager
Olletha Muhammad, HR Manager

From: Kenny Cutler, Diversity, Inclusion & Organizational Development Specialist
Jna Shelomith, Diversity, Inclusion & Organizational Development Specialist
HR Liaisons to RC Achievement Award Committee

Subject: Achievement Award for Battle Creek Winter Recreation Maintenance Team, Parks and Recreation Department

The Ramsey County Employee Achievement Award Selection Committee has selected the following employee to receive an Achievement Award. This is to advise you that in accordance with County Board Resolutions, **Battle Creek Winter Recreation Maintenance Team, Parks and Recreation Department** will receive an Employee Achievement Award. Presentation of the award will be made at the July 11, 2023, meeting of the County Board.

Nomination Summary

This past year February 2022, Ramsey County established the first winter recreation area with machine-made snow in the east metro at Battle Creek Regional Park.

The maintenance team responsible for getting this new recreation area up and running – and grooming its cross-country skiing trails and sledding hills – has been approved by the Ramsey County Achievement Award Selection Committee for an Employee Achievement Award in the category of “Excellent Job Performance.”

Much of the work done by the maintenance team is invisible and behind the scenes: From picking up trash to maintaining parks and plowing parking lots.

The team had a short timeframe to learn how to create and maintain the new recreation area, so they learned as they went along.

The hours were challenging as shifts had to change to provide around-the-clock coverage. The team was used to working regular day shift hours and had to adapt to meet the needs of the project.

They made this change with relentless positivity.

As the work progressed, community members couldn't believe how fast the team was able to get the winter recreation area up and running. It took just over three weeks, which was incredibly fast.

Even a snowstorm during the project – which required everyone to pause their work and plow snow – didn't slow down their progress. Whatever issues came up – and there were plenty of them – the team was able to adjust and adapt.

In summary, the Achievement Award Selection Committee recommends that the Battle Creek Winter Recreation Area maintenance team be awarded an Employee Achievement Award in the category of "Excellent Job Performance."

CC: Ryan O'Connor; Olletha Muhammad