

Mr. Gregg Guetschow, City Manager
City of Charlotte
111 E. Lawrence Avenue
Charlotte, MI 48813

April 15, 2016

Dear Mr. Guetschow:


I am writing on behalf of the Michigan Nordic Fire Festival Planning Committee, our sponsors, and the residents of Charlotte to thank you and the City for your efforts to support our first Michigan Nordic Fire Festival. The festival was very successful and well received by our residents, local businesses, and the visitors who came to the City from surrounding communities, states, and even as far as Italy.

In particular, I want to recognize Bryan Myrkle for his tireless support of the festival. Bryan put in countless hours outside of his regular work to serve on the Planning Committee, set up photo booths, move pallets, clean up trash, gather sponsorships, attend community meetings, etc. Much of this was on his own time. In addition, he personally paid for many items that the festival needed to get off the ground.

I have found Bryan to be extremely professional, even when he was short of sleep, out in the cold, and covered with grime. He was unfailingly responsive and friendly. He is consistently a pleasure to work with and a true asset to our community.

As you know, the festival planning committee has several community development goals such as bringing visitors into the City, creating a fun winter event, and attracting young families. We also have a goal of helping the City improve the parks to further these goals year round. We look forward to working with you, the City Council, and your team on the festival's upcoming events.

Best wishes,



William SaintAmour

Executive Director, Cobalt Community Research
wsaintamour@cobaltcommunityresearch.org
517.703.1320



cc: Mr. Bryan Myrkle

Ms. Amy Gilson, Director of Public Works
City of Charlotte
111 E. Lawrence Avenue
Charlotte, MI 48813

April 15, 2016

Dear Ms. Gilson:

I am writing on behalf of the Michigan Nordic Fire Festival Planning Committee, our sponsors, and the residents of Charlotte to thank you and your staff for your efforts to support our first Michigan Nordic Fire Festival. The festival was very successful and well received by our residents, local businesses, and the visitors who came to the City from surrounding communities, states, and even as far as Italy.

Whenever I talked to your staff at the festival itself or at the fall 5K that helped fund it, I found them to be extremely professional, responsive and friendly. Whether it was touching up the running trail through Bennett Park, plowing snow for tents and parking, or any of the other countless things they did, your team was consistently a pleasure to work with and a true asset to our community.

As you know, the festival planning committee has several goals such as bringing visitors into the City, creating a fun winter event, and attracting young families. We also have a goal of helping the City improve the parks to further these goals year round. Because of the festival's success, we have over 900 people on our very active Facebook page. This means that we should be able to gather volunteers for park clean-up events, brush clearing, painting, and other activities that would help make the parks an even stronger asset. Please contact me if you would like to arrange a date and some activities for us to help out with.

Again, thank you for your support, and we look forward to working with you and your team on the festival's upcoming events.

Best wishes,



William SaintAmour
Executive Director, Cobalt Community Research
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cc: Mr. Gregg Guetschow