

## **Recreation Board Meeting:**

- The Recreation Board met on Wed., Sept. 6th.
  - The board discussed the pool season and specifically the initial pool management evaluation process.
  - As part of that evaluation, the board reviewed the pool patron survey, which asked a number of questions about pool management.
  - The Recreation board will receive an overall pool report at the Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, which will include a recommendation from the rec staff on pool management for 2024.

## **Pool Survey Results:**

 As we discussed going into 2023 planning, while the first two years of pool management by SwimSafe left a number of areas to be desired, it was also understood that the first two summers included a significant impact on operations caused by factors outside of SwimSafe's controls including COVID restrictions in 2021 and a national lifeguard shortage in 2022.



- Going into 2023, recreation staff felt it was important that we get an opportunity to fairly evaluate SwimSafe and their ability to manage the community pool without the outside factors. We do believe that 2023 will allow us to make a fair and honest determination about whether or not to move forward with SwimSafe.
- Takeaways from the Survey Results:
  - We had 209 survey participants (252 in 2022)
  - 96.1% of those surveyed indicated that they plan to purchase memberships again next year.
     7 of the 8 respondents that said they would not buy a membership in 2024 indicated pool management was not the reason they would not return. Ex. Child did not go to the pool as much as expected.
  - Average score for pool Management related questions was 4.36 out of 5 (2022 4.13 average score). This was nearly a 6% increase from 2022.
  - Cleanliness scored the lowest score at 3.74, which was a 8.2% increase from 2022.
  - The survey also touched on the concession stand services. The average score was 3.81 out of 5 (2022 3.72 average score). This was a 2.54% increase from 2022
- Recreation staff will continue to collect some additional data and review all aspects of pool management in 2023 before making a final recommendation to the Recreation Board in October.
- We have also received 2024 budget numbers for SwimSafe. The 2024 contract proposal is flat from 2023 with no increase.

## **Labor Day Block Party:**

- The Labor Day Block Party was another huge community event success. We were extremely excited about the community turnout, the weather, while hot, was an overall nice day, activities were well received and the overall feedback was positive.
- Activities included a carnival theme with magic and juggling shows, street
  performers, carnival games, and bounce houses. The event also included the
  Labor Day traditions like the touch-a-truck, yard games, water balloon toss and
  the egg drop.
- Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff for working to pull this event off. Special thank you to the Bexley PD for their efforts to keep the event safe. The maintenance staff went above and beyond as they always do. This event would not be at all possible without the efforts of so many in our service staff, starting around 8a and working through 11p. Thank you team!

## **Community Campout:**

- Jeffrey Park hosted just over 50 families for the annual Bexley Community Campout.
- It was a beautiful night in Jeffrey Park with food, games, a movie, and gathering as a community.
- Special thank you to the Scouts and Brownies for volunteering and making this event special for those in attendance.
- Thank you to Josh Hester in our office for putting this event together.



