

#### **Recreation Board Meeting:**

- The Recreation Board met on Wed., August 6th at 5:30p at City Hall.
  - The Board received updates on the following:
    - Rec & Parks Projects
      - Commonwealth Unification Project
      - Tennis/Pickleball Project
      - Skate Park Project
      - Schneider Park Pedestrian Bridge Project
    - Community Events
      - Recap and Upcoming Schedule
    - Senior Center Update
    - Pool/Camp Update

### **Summer Community Events:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July:
  - What another amazing 4<sup>th</sup> of July in the City of Bexley.
  - Hugh thank you to all of the amazing volunteers, parks/service staff, police department officers, recreation and parks staff, city hall staff and so many more that helped make this day so special for our community!
  - The John Barr 5k run had just under 500 participants this year. Marking the most runners we have seen over the past 10+ years.
  - Planning for 2026 is underway. 250 Years!!!!
- August Schedule
  - Main Event Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6p on Capital's Front Lawn
    - Music by Fair Weathered followed by the showing of the movie, Inside Out 2.
    - As always, the event will be packed with activities, arts and crafts, food and more!
  - Splish, Splash & Dash Youth Triathlon Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>
    - The year we have added an adaptive course for children with special needs.
    - To date we have 321 registered participants.
    - Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers!
  - Jazz in the Park Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 5p at Havenwood
    - Music by Zach Compston Big Band
  - SummerFest (Formally known as Labor Day Block Party) Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> from 3p-8p

### **Recreation and Parks Project Updates:**

- Commonwealth Unification Project
  - A public workshop, to review the latest designs for the Commonwealth Unification Project, was held on July 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Attendance was good and feedback was generally positive as they reviewed the most recent design for what was the Columbia Street cut through of Commonwealth.
  - The plan focuses on a walking path connecting north and south Commonwealth with a focal center circle with a garden, pergola and





- sitting area.
- Final plans are in the works and will be reviewed by the Recreation and Parks Board for approval.
- Tennis/Pickleball Court Project
  - Repaving of the tennis court is underway. Unfortunately, the work was hampered by heavy rains early on in the demo process, delaying the completion of the work.
  - Asphalt work will finish shortly, at which point the curing process will take place (2-3 weeks) before the final touches including the painting of the courts.
  - As for the tennis/pickleball lighting project, we will make a recommendation to the board of controls for a lighting contract and hopefully enter into an agreement to have the lighting upgraded this fall. Reminder, the lightening project will be jointly funded through the rec fund and Bexley Community Foundation.

# **Senior Center Updates:**

- We received confirmation that the redevelopment of the 420 Cassady Senior Center site will be moving forward.
- Initial plans were to have the senior center vacated by the start of September. An updated proposed timeline looks like the senior center will remain on site until the end of the year. We are still trying to nail down a date and will hopefully have done so over the next two weeks.
- We will continue to evaluate temporary space to house senior programming until the redevelopment is completed.

## Jeffrey Summer Camp - Update:

- 2025 Jeffrey Summer Camp (JSC) finished up this past week on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.
  As is tradition, the families celebrated a wonderful summer with the end of year talent
- 2025 JSC provided camp for 593 individual campers (2024 536)
- 2025 JSC had campers sign up for a total of 3118 weeks (2024 3064)
- Sincere thank you to our amazing staff who worked so hard this summer. They did such a wonderful job building relationships, keeping the campers safe and providing a fun experience.



### **Bexley Recreation and Parks Volunteer Appreciation Party**

- The annual Volunteer Appreciation Party will be held at the David H. Madison Community Pool on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 6p-8p.
- This is our opportunity to thank the hundreds of volunteers we rely on to serve our community. This includes but is not limited to volunteer coaches, the Bloomers, event volunteers, race volunteers, student volunteers, board/commission volunteers, park volunteers, and more.
- In addition to volunteers and their families, city employees and their families are also invited as a thank you for all of their hard work and dedication to our community.