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Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2023.

Roger Carroll - May I have a motion to open the meeting.

Anne Brennan - So moved

Ally DeAngelo - Second

All in favor - The motion was approved.

Approval of Minutes

Roger Carrol - May I have a motion to approve the September minutes.

Clare Ceballos - So moved

Anne Brennan Second

All in favor - The motion was approved

Roll Call

Roger Carroll - present

Ann Brennan - present

Eric Acton - present

Clare Ceballos - present

Aly DeAngelo - present

Tyler Stanley - present

Joanne Pickrell - present

School Board Representative

Jessica Saad - City Council Representative - present

Jeffrey Mansion Preschool - Year End Report - Katie Sarvas

Roger Carroll - The Preschool Report will be given at the November meeting.

David H. Madison Community Pool - Year End Report

Natnali Mullin - We just finished the seventh year for this pool. This pool opened in 2007. We are therefore spending a little more on capital improvements. Part of the budget will reflect the capital improvement.

We changed the membership structure to \$50.00 individual , \$40.00 for 55 years and up.

We saw a drastic increase in individual memberships to 600.

I want to point out two things. Because of the membership structure change the city committed to financially support the pool as to what that loss might look like. \$120,000 was transferd from the general fund this year, which did not happen in the past. We added it into our revenue. It's going to show we lost \$7,000.00. If you take out the capital we did this year \$42,000 for the slides then we actually net almost \$16,000.00 We renovated the slides this year and the leisure pool last year.

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We are showing an estimated \$32,000.00 remaining but that will cover the ongoing cost for the rest of the year, gas, electric etc. But \$13,000 is actually going to be used to change the splash pad fence to accommodate keeping it opened later into October and earlier in May. We have to have a 6 foot fence on the inside and gates to the outside.

Ally DeAngelo - This will be unstaffed?

Natalie Mullin - Yes.

Mike Price - The splash pad at Schneider is not treated water. The pool splash pad is treated and we will have to oversee the chemical levels.

Natalie Mullin - Over the last two years we have had just over \$100,000 in Capital improvement repairs. That also includes parts to the Wibit and new replacement chairs.

Clare Ceballos - Are you mentioning it because it is high.

Natalie Mullin - yes it is usually \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Natalie Mullin - The total number of people went up about 600 based on the memberships from the year before. We averaged 329 people per day versus 296 last year.

Natalie Mullin - The Swim Lesson program was the same as last year. One 3 week or 2 two week sessions . There were four time slots per day Monday thru Thursday. We also offer Saturday lessons with four time slots. 547 registered this year last year 723. One reason is the kids test out earlier. There are also a lot more swim schools to choose from and do lessons in the winter and just stay with them. There were some staffing issues last year and maybe some chose not to return. We are working on improving.

Natalie Mullin - Swim Team was similar to last year as it relates to the fees and the revenue we brought in. We changed leagues and the season was a week shorter. There were developmental meets that were nice for the younger kids versus a more competitive league they were in before.

Mike Price - The Swim Team is parent driven and we support them in terms of facilities and registration process. Any feedback we receive we pass on to the Swim Team Board.

Natalie Mullin - We continued to offer Senior Water Aerobics and Paws in the Pool. We had 7 after hours rentals 3 of those were school events which were completed and 4 paid events.

The Birthday Tent rentals went up about 14 from last year.

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Natalie Mullin - when looking at the budget remember the membership revenue is down because an individual was only \$50.00 this year. It also includes the pulse one and individual memberships and the 14 day passes were included as well. Daily admissions were up. The Swim Team was similar to last year and Swim Lesson revenue was down. One slot on the birthday tent was not filled as far as sponsors go. Events programs and rentals were up. The concession stand was up \$5,000.00

The expenses are through September. The electric expenses were very high, some months more than \$1,000. There was also repair and maintenance to some equipment. Pumps , Splash

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Pad repairs, repair to the controls that auto feed the chlorine when it needs it, some boiler issues as it relates to heating the pool. There is a \$5,500.00 expense to repair siding. And the Splash Pad fence of \$13,000.00

We barely spent anything out of the concession account.

The Swim Safe contract did increase from \$22,000 to \$23,000 due to the increase in chemicals and staffing

The Capital items were slides, restroom flooring, chair, concession tables. Replaced the diving board(came out of a separate account from 2022).

The Capital items for next year is to repair or buy a new Handicap Chair lift. A portable one ranges from \$2,000 to \$10,000. We want to do another round of lifeguard chairs. We have at least 2 more rounds of getting the olds ones replaced. We are going to look into a new PA system.

Natalie Mullin - Our current contract with Swim Safe runs out this year, it was only for 3 years and we would be moving into a 4th year next year. We did check with the legal department and we could extend it to 5 years. We thought we would extend the contract to 2024 with the option to add 2025 before we would have to go to bid. All of that would be based on City Council approval. We were much happier this year with Swim Safe. Staffing was strong this year and everything was where it needed to be. The communication piece was much better.

Mike Price - We received positive feedback from the survey we sent to patrons. We also did a survey of the staff. They are not our staff, they are Swim Safe. We received positive feedback from that survey also. The retention rate is high which is a good indicator. The data points help us make this recommendation. We would like to sign the contract with the contingent on council's approval.

Roger Carroll - May I have a motion to add a 4th year to the Swim Safe contract with the option to add a 5th year before having to go to rebid.

Aly DeAngelo - So moved

Clare Ceballos - Second.

All in favor - the motion was approved.

Jess Saad - I just want to say good job. I know it has taken a lot of hard work to get here.

Mike Price - We will come back in November regarding Membership and Daily admission rates.

Mike Price - I want to thank Natalie because she is the one who has gotten us here to this place with the pool.

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Director's Report

Year of the Parks Update

Mike Price - The Commonwealth Pond is expected to be completed by the end of October. The contractor was out of town last week. We have been working to coordinate the plant material installed around the pond. Timing will be tough with the arboretum feature.

Ann Brennan - Will there be a fence around the pond?

Mike Price - No. It was designed intentionally to have an easy way out and the deepest is 5 feet.

Ann Brennan - Will there be fish in the pond and will there be fishing.

Mike Price - We have not made any decisions regarding fish and fishing yet.

Skate Park Update

Mike Price - We held our first committee meeting with the design team, who has a lot of skateboard experience. A public survey is going out this week. This will be our first engagement with the public as we work to gather community wide feedback. The survey will be open for 2 weeks.

The process will include 2 public workshops to review draft plans for the skatepark. One to make sure the public is aware of the project and to make sure we have a skatepark residences want. We hope to have from the design team a first draft of a site plan and then have public workshops around that. We potentially plan a workshop in late November early December.

Preservation and Enhancement Committee Update

Mike Price - We had our first public workshop last night for the Jeffrey Park Preservation and Enhancement Plan. We had a decent turnout and did a basic SWOT analysis of Jeffrey Park. What are the strengths and weaknesses and wanted to give an opportunity to express what your experiences are with Jeffrey Park. We gathered a good deal of information and felt like the workshop comments were reflective of a lot of the discussion the committee has had.

We have another workshop on November 29th.

The woodland management of the park is the goal of what this plan will ultimately be. We have a meeting with Charlie Flower who is a forest expert and works for the US Forest Department. Charlie will be instrumental in helping to coordinate the efforts to build a woodland management plan. Charlie will be meeting with the committee members to talk about the next step in the development of the Woodland management portion of the plan.

Fall Events

Into The Woods Fest

Mike Price - Into the Woods Fest is Saturday, October 7 from 2:00 - 10:00 p.m

This is an alcohol event, approved by the board.

Support Harmony Project, Alzheimers, Bexley Year of the Park, BirdieLight

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We will watch the weather. It is important to us that we preserve the grounds. If we have rainy weather we will have to adjust. We also have Harvest Fest the next week and we will have a lot of people there on the grounds.

Harvest Festival

Mike Price - Friday, October 13 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Hayrides, Corn Maze, Food, Bonfire, Enchanted Walk, Nature Programming, Magician, Pumpkin Carver. Thank you to Barb Triffon for putting the Nature piece together for the event.

Halloween Bash

Mike Price - Last year it was a very successful event.

We added a Middle School Halloween Bash on Friday, October 27 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 28 will be the adult events from 7:30 - 11:30 p.m.

Thank you to Emily, Lauren and Natalie on taking the lead for this event.

Halloween Patrol

Mike Price - We still need volunteers. Halloween is Tuesday, October 31 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Roger Carroll - Can we get a report on the Into The Woods event. Who makes the call about the weather?

Mike Price - The Mayor and Ron. The back up plan is to move the event to the asphalt., the tennis court lot.

Next year we may have registration so we have a sense of numbers. We will continue to evaluate if it's the right place. It would be nice if there wasn't any rain involved.

Old Business

Aly DeAngelo - Just want to know the progress on the new Preschool Director.

Mike Price - we have an interim director, who was the assistant director last year. We are going to take our time on filling that position focusing on the starting of 2024. Katie Sarvas is overseeing the administrative duties of the preschool. She has been doing an amazing job. For now we want to focus on what is going on in the classroom.

New Business

Roger Carroll - May I have a motion to adjourn.

Ann Brennan - So moved

Aly DeAngelo - Second

All in favor - Motion was approved.