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Recreation Board Minutes
September 4, 2024.

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

Ann Brennan - So moved

Tyler Stanley - Second

All in favor - The motion is approved.

Roll Call

Eric Action - Present

Ann Brennan - Present

Roger Carroll - Present

Clare Ceballos - Present

Aly DeAngelo - Present

Joanne Pickrell - Present

Tyler Stanley - Present

Lori Ann Feibel - City Council Representative

Roger Carroll - May I have a motion to approve the August minutes

Aly DeAngelo - So moved

Tyler Stanley - Second

All in favor - The motion is approved.

4 -Season Shelter House Design - Review
Keith Hall, Managing Principal MSA Design

Mike Price - I would like to welcome Keith Hall and Seizan Lindstrom with MSA design and we asked them for a schmitic design for the 4 Season Shelter House. This would replace the existing tents that support the Summer Camp program. It would allow for indoor programs for the Summer Camp when there is inclement weather. Now they have to come up to the Mansion. This will address the existing demand on the program. It is a location that will provide year round programmable space. It will also serve as rentable space for the community. City Council has provided funds only for the design process. There are no committed funds yet for the construction of this project. We are going through that process. We do not have cost estimates yet. We are getting close. Some of the feedback we receive from you all might also somewhat impact what those potential cost estimates will be. And then the discussion once we get to the place we have a design that we are supportive of then we will have cost estimates to talk with city council about including some part of, into 2024 - 2025 budget season and sort of go from there.

We will at some point come back to the board for frankly this is to get feedback from the board and will come back for an approval process of which Keith will not necessarily need to attend. Assuming there are no major changes.

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I will now turn it over to Keith to walk us through the design.

Keith Hall - We have spent time working back and forth and I think we have come up with a really awesome facility not only for the park but for the community as a whole. Obviously this area of the park with the small shed down there and the use of the tents and the rest rooms is a little disjointed. This essentially pulls everything together. It is a four season shelter. That was the primary focus. It can be opened up in the Winter to become an open air shelter. The whole shelter in essence will have heating in it. There is a small administration space that will have air conditioning in it for the summer time camp workers.

Mr. Hall then reviewed a slide show of the proposed shelter.

Clare Ceballos - Is this more restrooms, less, the same? There is a structure there now.

Keith Hall - We will get into that in a second. In the existing restrooms we have two fixtures in each one with one lavatory. We have expanded that by one additional fixture in each restroom and two lavatories in each one.

Clare Ceballos - Are the restrooms open at Jeffrey, like if I go now, are the restrooms open at the shelter house all the time?

Mike Price - They are seasonal , this shelter would be open all year round. Until we added the restroom at the maintenance garage we had no year round restrooms. We had to bring in a porta john. And we still do since the maintenance garage is so far away from the park. With this we would not bring in any portable restrooms.

Clare Ceballos - In the seasons we do not lock the restrooms.

Mike Price - Yes we do, our security system locks them. This presumably would be as well , our security system that would allow us to lock them after park hours close.

Roger Carroll - Did you think that to have less hardscape and more greenery?

Keith Hall - I think it is still in development. We are discussing it and we will discuss it until we get to the final design. And we do have a pretty big area out here identified for hardscape. Part of that is understanding what the opportunities are for renting. You could have a small reception inside where there is the food and you come outside there is an outdoor dance party. During camp to have this much space might have its advantages but if we decide that those types of uses really are not part of this then yes this could be shaved down a little and brought back in and we would landscape the edge and make it nicer too.

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Mike Price - We will continue to discuss, programmatically we need some hardships for the camp but we are aware we need to try to soften it as much as possible. There are program pieces to this which is for our kids to have a hard space to play different games to obviously keep them out of the parking lot.

Keith Hall - We have garage doors surrounding the entire space that allows this thing to really open up and become and become something not too much unlike the other shelter in the northern part of the park. We have the clear story above that allows natural light to spill in. We view this as an effort to make this feel like it is part of the outside space so when you are inside you feel like you are still connected to the park.

Material wise stone on the exterior. We studied a couple different variations of this and we kept coming back to the stone. One of the options we recently had was to put a metal roof on this. But we landed on the idea we should start to look at the shelter at the other end. Maybe we should make this look like a brother or sister to what that is and really tie it in. We have other renderings that start to show that too.

Picking on the stone features and the slate roof then you know this is a clear story really cladding that with wood from a constructive abilities perspective and even to have some stone floating up there it doesn't make a lot of sense so the wood cladding starts to be the right material to use there.

Mike Price - One discussion we had, actually after our last meeting that we haven't talked about. Is that metal roof inside on a rainy day, is it going to be noticeably loud?

Keith Hall - You would hear it, yell, depending on the level of rain. The inside would probably have a wood decking on it that would soften that and then we could even put a layer of foam insulation in there to mitigate that even more if we needed to. We would not have to do that with this type of roof here.

Tyler Stanley - I have been a camp counselor when we had rainy days and were in the mansion and it is crazy loud enough with the kids so we don't need any added noise.

Aly DeAngelo - No AC except the admin space?

Keith Hall - The floor plan was presented. It is a 40 x80 foot building . It is rectangular and simple in its shape so we can keep the cost down. Mechanically wise the entire building will have heat supplied to it. The admin space is the only area slated to have air conditioning.

Mike Price - there will be large fans in there for circulation. Putting air conditioning in this building creates different issues.

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Keith Hall - On a rainy day when the kids are in there. If it's not like a thunderstorm, you're still going to have these garage doors open, as Mike mentioned, we do plan on putting some larger circulation fans in there that will keep air moving. That is the key to keep air moving and flowing through space. As we know we have hot and humid days and as you know humidity is the toughest thing to control in that environment. It would be like being under an outdoor shelter almost like down at the other end of the park and that can be pretty comfortable on a day like that.

Keith Hall - The fans would be budgeted into the space. There is a fan called a Big Ass Fan and that's what it is called. It's a brand, and those do really do circulate and move very slowly and you know we use them a lot in fire stations that we do in the apparatus bay and they really do the job.

Roger Carroll - How many campers would fit comfortably if they had to be inside ?

Mike Price - With 8 - 10 kids at each table about 150. For inclement weather we talked about the furnishings being flexible so we would hopefully pick up tables that you could fold up and move mostly out of the way which provides a different type of use of the space obviously with the tables out of the way we could get more than that 150. That is more than our max for that site. Now they do combine camps at the end of the day when there are lower numbers. We've adjusted through this process the square footage to try to make sure it accommodated what we're currently supporting in that space so 150 sitting and it would be more if you had those tables out of the way and depending what your activity was.

Clare Ceballos - Is this replacing them, what would have happened before ? Would they have gone to the tents or to the mansion?

Mike Price - Inclement weather ? Light rain would go to the tents. Heavy rain they would go to the mansion

Clare Ceballos - This would replace going to the Mansion

Mike Price - Yes

Clare Ceballos - Your saying we don't have more campers than that

Mike Price - For woods we do not, but we push that number.

Clare Ceballos - So they really would not need to go to the Mansion for anything. Is that what we are trying to solve , them not going to the mansion?

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Mike Price - Yes and no. To Ally's point there are other things than just rain. There are other reasons we go to the mansion to get out of certain situations. I will say especially like in the summer we have pop-up thunderstorms. The amount of time that they use loading up to get to the mansion is 45 minutes going back down then 2 hours later going back up. It will also provide a better camp experience so they are not losing all this time just going back and forth. There are a lot of logistic things that it will address for us . Putting up and taking down a tent. There are other considerations that would be a benefit and obviously on top of that is the year round use of it outside of the summer camp.

Clare Ceballos - Why do you need an admin office here? What does that solve?

Mke Price - We would like to have some IT support that you might otherwise not have in a tent. For example the staff now have an online timesheet software so it helps with that. If they have a reason to pull a kid aside, they might have a separate space to talk with them. Might have to talk to staff about things . Might have to have a meeting with a parent. And then it will also provide a Nature outlet through this. So this building provides nature opportunities obviously outside of camp season that would potentially turn into a nature center for us the other nine months and provide space where people will go to the windows to watch birds or maybe some exhibits that are in there.

Keith Hall - It is a large open space here, think of it more so with the garage doors open, open air harder surfaces in there. So it's not like its dry wall so if it can get wet. In the summer it's wide open and in the winter it's all pretty much closed at that point. We do include a little kitchenette area that would have a refrigerator and a sink. There is talk about ice and some other features we might want to consider including a serving counter.

The main area is flanked by this double faced fireplace.

There is a concrete floor, painted concrete walls, open wood truss ceiling, and there is a clear story which provides natural light. The office and nature center is set up like a classroom. One for the office and the uses that Mike explained, and two you can probably bring in a group of 10 - 15 kids for instruction. The two restrooms you can access directly from the interior and from the outside. It also includes a storage area for camp materials.

We opted for the all stone option because it would cut down on maintenance and fits in with everything in that sector of the park.

Aly DeAngelo - Is there ventilation in the restroom. At the pool it just doesn't seem like there is much ventilation.

Keith Hall - The restroom has to have exhaust , which is required by code. And during the summer those types of spaces tend to get warm on their own. There will be a fresh air louver with an exhaust fan on one side that will draw and pull air through. They will be as comfortable as any park restroom is on a hot summer day.

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This is the design solution that we think best fits and is a nod to the shelter at the northern end of the park.

Keith Hall - As we look at materials, the metal panels that we have been considering but the synthetic slate roof is something we are leaning on. The wood panel cladding is straightforward. The stone cladding is a little more rusticated. This really fits better with the shelter at the other end of the park.

The interior we are showing trusses. Once we get into this we will probably use some pre engineered structure that will probably have some laminated type timbers that go from in the middle to allow these doors to come up in between them and not come in horizontally.

Roger Carroll - Thank you very much. It was very enlightening and the design looks great.

Mike Price - Can you figure out the distance from the northern edge to the woodlands relative to the distance from the two structures that are there now to the woodlands. I am interested in what the buffer distance is between like the woods edge and the northern edge. And is closer than the other two structures are sorta of the same distance.

Keith Hall - I think it's the same roughly. If you go back to the site plan. We can put some dimensions on it so you have them. Should you be interested in knowing that. From the restroom we are leaning in. So if you took a line and struck it down between there we are about 25 feet closer into the woods.

Clare Ceballos - But we are only taking down one tree.

Mike Price - Yes the one is significant.

Aly DeAngelo - The existing ground there I don't know the best way to use it. It doesn't get used a lot because of the slope of it. That's kind of that running path; it's not like a manicured space.

Clare Ceballos - That space is used by the camp. It's not like it is in the woods.

Mike Price - I think it's something worth for us to do is to evaluate how far we could pull that to the south.

Keith Hall - Yes we can do that. And we can help visualize it better because it is really hard to get your orientation off of drawings just go out there and flat out stake out the corners so we can stand here and say here is corner ABC and D. See where the tree is, see where the restroom shelter is and that is really easy to do.

Mike Price - We can talk about that and I will communicate with the board if anyone wants to swing by.

Keith Hall - I am more than happy to meet at the site.

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Clare Ceballos - Other than camp the vision of this will be closed and locked unless you rent it for an event?

Mike Price - No I think it would be anticipated being open except for programming in which case we might have the walls down and we are doing yoga

Clare Ceballos - I was thinking eventually its not much more of an open space , like you don't have to have a reservation

Mike Price - Well correct but we would also, we could make a reservation.

Clare Ceballos - So you can make a reservation like the other spaces.

Mike Price - Unlike the other spaces , and this is frankly where the conversation goes back to covid. We were talking about a space that is inside and outside. I do anticipate that we will program there fairly regularly with classes. It lends itself very well with that year round so it gives us a lot of flexibility. During camp season doesn't necessarily have to come inside for inclement weather we have more programmable space and flexibility on the building . Outside of camp season it gives us another space to program that's away for the building that you all know we wouldn't have to say yes to a Friday rental or Saturday rental because of the use of tables

Clare Ceballos - You said the tables would be pretty easy to move around

Mike Price - That would be the idea because right now we basically do not program at Jeffrey Mansion on the weekend because of rentals. We keep it open for rentals. The shelter would give us programmable options

Aly DeAngelo - The other shelter, it's just , you float in there and then oh its booked for a birthday party

Mike Price - We put signage up with the reservation on there. That experience happens all the time with the current Memorial Shelter. Not at the Clifton Shelter because we do not rent it

Mike Price - The board if there are any questions that come up after or you think of something feel free to reach out and we will try to get those answers.

Clare Cedillos - This is a game changer for many reasons .

Roger Carroll - Yes. Seems like it will be a great addition year round more than just camp. It seems like it will blend in pretty well too.

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Pool Year In Report - Natalie

Natalie Mullin - We completed our 18th season of the pool. We did the same thing with the individual membership structure. We did have a slight increase in memberships this year both resident and non-resident. We are continuing to put money back into the pool. As it completed its 18th season there are different unexpected capital projects as well as some planned ones as we finish out the year.

We do have a general fund transfer since we switched to the individual membership structure to help support that from the city and it did go up about \$5,000.00 from last year but. The total net is better than last year. We do again need help with some capital items. One for sure is the filtration, the sand filtration medium that we are going to plan on replacing and costs around \$16,000. We are going to try to use this year's budget to do that. We are going to look at a handful of things for next year.

At the end of the season we usually meet with Swim Safe in October or November and give me a report as it relates to everything around the facility, buildings, pumps, the pool floors and the walls. They will give recommendations on things as it relates to the length of the life they may have left or if they need to be updated or if everything is in good shape.

That is something I will probably be getting in the next month.

Pool Attendance and Membership Report

Natalie Mullin - The season was from May 25 to September 2. This is still under 101 days. This is the same as last year. We did have an increase in members so the membership scans went up this year as well as the daily admission. The daily admission actually went up as well. It was very hot and dry and not a lot of rain. I don't even know if we ever had a full day where we just didn't open. We may have had a couple of rainy days in July.

The average daily attendance was up due to that increase. We no longer have an early bird.

The regular pricing as we opened in March through July. There were some August memberships that were 25% off. So we went from 50 to 25 for anyone 54 and younger and 55 and up it dropped to 20 from 40. There are a handful of those, as people are moving into the community, and that is a really nice way to test the pool out. Or they haven't gone and they started to go in August so it is way better to buy a membership.

Non-resident memberships were filled this year. We did go over a little of the max of 300. We had 5 families on the waitlist so we made the decision to include them. We did not have any capacity issues as it relates to that.

We do have a handful of teachers, who reach out, that are non-residents but we do allow them to get a membership and then I include them as an actual non-resident versus a resident.

We scholarship 74 individuals this year but we did not have a comparison to the previous year. But I do believe it is up from what we were in previous years.

We offered a 14 day pass. Some people take advantage of that. Many have guests coming with them. It is a nice way to buy daily admission at a discounted rate in advance.

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Program and Rentals

Natalie Mullin - We changed the structure this year. We offered two three week sessions. One reason was that the session went into the first week of August which started to become a staffing issue. Kids were returning to school and getting involved in extracurricular activities and returning to college. We think families enjoyed the two three week session better. Because it gave families more flexibility.

We were down in the number of kids that participated because we did have that additional session 3 as last year. Overall we maxed out more time slots, we had fuller sessions. I haven't surveyed the families yet but I've heard a lot of positive feedback about the program and the instructors.

There is a variety of other programming and things that we have done. We did paws in the pool yesterday.

Marlin Swim Team similar in revenue although their numbers were down a little. They increased their fee so that kept the revenue similar. We treat that almost like an instructor base program where the swim team board is the instructor. We take 25% of the program revenue.

We do pay the coaches and that comes out of the money that they take and then they take that final cut that they can put back into their program.

We did go up in rentals. We had some after hours again and some of the same ones from last year, they repeated so they seem to enjoy that. The birthday tent is a good deal for a summer birthday so that is popular.

Revenue and Expenses

Natalie Mullin - On Concessions I was going to meet with Kevin from 365 Midwest today but both of us had conflicts but he did send me an email. We are going to be around \$11,000 or so and that is a little short from last year. In our agreement if he nets \$100,000 or more it jumps to 15% but if he under \$100,000 it stays at 12%. Last year he was above \$100,000. This year he was at \$97,000. He mentioned that as good as the weather was, the few rainy days we had fell on Saturday and those are some of their bigger revenue days. Overall they did well for the summer.

Memberships increased but for the most part everything else remained the same. It was nice to see the daily admissions went up even though our memberships were up but it was a hot summer.

The estimated expenses are for about 3 months and I believe they are reasonable based on the way things have gone so far through the Summer. The one large expense is the pool capital for the sand media filtration system and we are going to use this year's funds. Another capital improvement is for the new PA system which is another capital improvement, We did not commit to this year since we had some funds available. We are going to use some additional funds we will take from other pool accounts that we can use that money as well. So we are planning on

doing that again. I think in August we brought up the fact that the water was a little cloudier at times and had to add chemicals to fix it and it did.

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We fixed that and the dive well issue. But over all the sand filter needs to be replaced .I think they recommended replacement every 12 to 15 years and it's been 18. Swim Safe was able to bring it to our attention so we want to make sure we get that done.

Other expenses we had a handful of repairs or improvements. We had splash pad repairs with the features that are in the ground and replaced the pump. The water slide pump needed to be repaired. And we bought a new vacuum and they are expensive, especially if you get a larger one. I think Swim Safe did a much better job keeping the pools clean. They had a set schedule.

Just a reminder salary and wages includes a portion of my salary

Capital items this year we had pool chairs, new lifeguard chairs which have more flexibility. The play structure had netting coming down and bought a couple new wood pieces for it.

Some other thing we are potentially planning on some of the spots that need to be patched, we need to look at that.

We potentially have a leak in the leisure pool, they have had to fill an inch or two every day outside of normal splash off. We have a leak detection company coming in next Friday to help figure out where the leak is.

Aly DeAngelo - What is the projection of the transfer form the general fund for next year.

Mike Price - We are just getting into budget season, So there will be a discussion as to how comfortable to reduce our pool fund balance.

This year we are going to be roughly, when you add in the \$11,000 and we used to have a little revenue coming in. We are going to be roughly \$25,000 in the hole

We will reduce our rec. pool fund by \$25,000. It depends what the auditor is comfortable with. Do they want to keep eating into the pool fund or would they prefer to have a higher subsidy to maintain a higher balance. So I don't necessarily know but I would project based on moving forward we will keep this same model of memberships and our contracts and the vast majority of the expenses associated with Swim Safe. At least from an operational standpoint our contract with Swim Safe has been rather flat the second year. The next 3 year contract, I think it is how they want to fund it . Do they want to increase the transfer or do they just want to take it out of the fund balance.

Aly DeAngelo - Do you think it keeps up with the pace of the new fee structure? You know our new fee structure means our families are paying less . We are getting more members. So is that keeping up with that number?

Mike Price - We are subsidizing the pool much more than we did say 2019 through 2024.

Aly DeAngelo - But it is keeping pace with where it is going. This is only the second year we've done it right?

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Mike Price - Yes. Is it keeping pace ? it is not. The short answer it is not because we are a) having to transfer funds from the general fund and b) reduce our existing fund balance to the tune of roughly \$150,000 a year. At some point that fund balance if you are not going to transfer more than your loss is your fund balance is going to get to zero and you are going to have a higher transfer dollar amount. Now that was a strategic decision by City Council and by the Mayor in terms of viewing the pool as an amenity to our community and not having a view of a 100% recovery cost. This is sorta of what we pushed and what we did the first 10 to 15 years roughly of the pool's existence. We made \$80,000 some years. But up to 2019 we are just basically covering costs. We are flat at that point. The trend would have been, not as dramatic as this but the trend would have started to lose money every year operationally on the pool.

So that was a strategic decision by City Council . We can always say we need to reassess this. We can't keep transferring \$150,000 into the pool fund but that is a philosophical discussion that they will have to have and make a decision.

Aly DeAngelo - But as long as we have this new fee structure you are still going to have to request a transfer.

Mike Price - I don't have off the top of my head what the pool fund balance is. I want to say the pool fund is \$300,000 to \$400,000. At the rate we are going we could theoretically do that for 10 years if the numbers stay similar and they continue to transfer \$125,000

At some point they want a fund balance that allows for a worst case scenario in a year and all of a sudden we are not screaming saying how are we going to pay for the fact that no one signed up for the pool then I still have all these expenses. It is something the City Council will have to evaluate over the next 5 or 6 years. When you make that sort of commitment it is tough to change back.

Aly DeAngelo - I could not remember if it was an incremental commitment every year or if they give it to us because we ask every year.

Mike Price - It will be out of the Fund Balance which has \$300,000 to \$400,000 because the first several years that fund balance built up. Under this pool the last 2 years are the first time that under this pool that they provided a transfer to offset loss.

It will be an ongoing evaluation of City resources and how they want to spend them.

Clare Ceballos - I want to say it is a great idea to have the Splash Pad open to the park. It is an experiment right?

Natalie Mullin - I know and ironically enough I think we tried to when we first opened the new pool in 2007.

Clare Ceballos - And there is no way to know or does it know when someone turns it on .

Natalie Mullin - No it's just the pump. It is on 24/7

Clare Ceballos - OK so it otherwise sometimes people use it. The water is not running. It doesn't track how many pushes.

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Mike Price - No it doesn't track. We have a camera on it .

Natalie Mullin - The button gets pushed and the water stays on for 3 to 5 minutes. If no one is using it turns off.

Mike Price - The difference between this one and Schneider Park is this water is recycled treated water. Schneider park is not. The cost is fairly nominal to keep that open for another month.

Roger Carroll - Do you know how much Schneider Park Splash pad is being used.

Mike Price - It is used a lot. The best metric is the amount of water used .

Director's Report

Mike Price - Fall is a busy time with a number of special events. Starting with Splish Splash Dash and going through Harvest Fest. The team has done a great job and maintenance takes a brunt of it but doesn't always get the recognition for it . They support all these events. The Labor Day Block Party was this past Sunday. This was a great event and estimated over 3,000 people attended. We estimated a 10%- 15% increase. This is based on our food sales which were higher than last year.

The Smoke and Fire Event is Saturday , September 14 at Schneider Park from 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. The event starts with a BBQ Competition at 5:00 pm and there will be live music by the Roots Society from 5:00 - 7:00 pm The movie Wonka will start at 8:00 Schneider Park.

The Community Camp Out Friday, September 20th at Jeffrey Park. At this point 55 families are registered. I want to thank Scouts for helping to run this event.

Bexley Mural Festival is a new event for the community. It will be on Saturday, September 21 from 3:00 - 10:00 pm. It will be along Main Street. This is running through the Mayor's office but our department will be supporting it. There will be food and art vendors selling different art pieces, they will be located in the alleys that run parallel to Main Street. It is funded through a grant from the Community Foundation. At this point it is a one year event and every year maybe one mural will be added as a continued effort on Main Street.

Into The Woods Festival is Sunday, September 29th from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm at Jeffrey Park.

We will then get into Harvest Festival and Halloween Party.

Fall Programing Update

Preschool

Mike Price - Preschool opened on Monday August 26th. We are excited about the staff who includes a few new teachers as well as returning teachers. We had one spot open but it has -12-

been filled. This is the first year we have had a 5 day full and 5 day half day. We eliminated the 3 day half day. Angela Budendeck has done a terrific job. We did get hit by covid and many of the staff were affected so Katie Sarvas and Emily Sweet stepped up and went into the classrooms to help out and keep us operational.

Before / After Care

Mike Price - Before and After Care opened on Monday August 19th. We have about 275 registered between all three schools so attendance is very strong this year.

We appreciate the support of Bexley Schools. We are working with their IT department. The City has migrated to an automated time cards system. Instead of staff filling out paperwork of signing in and signing out on sites. We have been working with the schools to add our hardware so they can use the new system. We are still trying to work out what the schools are comfortable with as far as security goes. The new time card system helps a lot on the back end. It helps with controls making sure we have accurate time cards and some other things.

Staffing levels are good but we continue to look for additional staff.
We are off to a good start with the After Care Program.

Woodland Management Plan - Update

Mike Price - We had a second meeting with consultant Charlie Flower in which we continue to review draft language for the woodland management plan. Which is the last piece of the Preservation and Enhancement Committee's role.

We are close to a draft that we are then going to ask the committee to get back together to review and provide feedback and recommend any changes and hopefully adopt or recommend the adoption of a Woodland Management Plan. I am hoping to get together to meet in the next two to three weeks.

That will be a plan that will come before the board for adoption. I don't know if there will be councilmanic action associated with that action. There may be some conversation that comes out of it as to whether there may be some legislation that we want to put in front of council to consider protections for the woodlands. Then that will be our governing documentation for how we manage the Woodland and what sort of improvements we make

Splish Splash Dash Bexley High School Boys and Girls cross

Mike Price - The 12th Annual Splish Splash and Dash was held on August 17th at Jeffrey Park. We had 352 registered and this is the highest we have had.

Huge thank you to our 100 volunteers that made this event happen for our community. A special thank you to the Boys and Girls Cross Country and Soccer Teams. And to Natalie Mullin who oversees this event and does an absolutely amazing job,

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Child Care Administrator Position

Mike Price - City Council approved the full time Child Care Administrator Position. It was turning a part time position into a full time position. The demands on it have turned it into 40 hours a week.

Mindy has been doing this role for over 6 six years. Prior she was the administrative assistant to the previous Recreation Director. She knows payroll and accounts payable and there will be some additional responsibilities we will probably have her do .

Joanne Pickrell - She has the fastest response time getting back to a parent. I don't think she ever sleeps , all day or all night.

Mike Price - Which is wonderful . Although I just had a meeting with her, we need to start retraining expectations so you are not at 10:00 pm doing work. Some emergencies may come up but most of those things can wait until the next day. She does an amazing job and is very thorough.

2025 Budget

Mike Price - We are going to turn in some draft budgets in the next couple weeks. This is a very early iteration that we will go through. There will be many changes. I want to remind the board if you have any ideas , capital items, or programming items, anything you want us to think about including in the budget feel free any time reach out to me.
That is the report.

Roger Carroll - Has the Commonwealth Park Committee met yet?

Mike Price - Yes Ali and Eric we got together two weeks ago It was a conceptual discussion of what is going on and the history. Talked about some ideas. The design team was there Brian Kent Jones and Elena Andrews, who is an internal staff who is a landscape architect. We talk about in the next couple weeks having a follow up meeting where they will bring some conceptual ideas of what could be. In the short term I do expect they will be tearing up the asphalt and the curb and bringing fill dirt and topsoil and creating a clean slate in that space before further development goes in. We will meet again to figure the long term design might be. It could be fairly basic or it could be a little more advanced but it's not going to be an athletic field, it is going to be a passive space that brings people to the park. Similar to what is happening to the pond on the west side. We talk about one of the things about the pond and the arboritium feature: we have people engaging in Commonwealth Park that are not there for a specific program which we really haven't had a lot of before. This is going to be another opportunity to bring in more passive use of the space.

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Roger Carroll - That passive use is really taking a beating with the heat. A lot of those plants have really seen better days

Mike Price - Some of those plants, the evergreens are under warranty, and will be replaced. There is also a second round of plantings above and beyond what you see now and will be going in later this fall so that will continue to grow on that west side

Mike Price - The current board meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday of October. Can we reschedule this meeting? I will send an email out gauging what day will work.

Roger Carroll - May I have a motion to adjourn the meeting

Joanne Pickrell - So moved

Ally DeAngelo - Second

Roger Carroll - The motion is approved.