



Committee Members: Wright, Chris - Chairperson x
Quigley, Jim x
Santorsola, Jim x
Traver, Susan A
Wheatley-Billeter, Martha Lou A
Alternate - Cameron, Randy x

Also Present: Staff – Leroy Eadie, Craig Butz, Mike Aho,
Rebecca Madany, Nancy Goodspeed, Carl Strong; and Leesa Van Zandt

**Recreation Committee of the Spokane Park Board
December 1, 2011 – 3:30 p.m.
City Hall, City Conference Room 2B
Craig Butz – Recreation/Entertainment Division Manager**

Summary

- An update was given on the Field Allocation process.
- An update was given on the Make-a-Splash program.
- An update was given on the Center Funding Committee.
- A Revenue/Expense report was distributed and reviewed.
- A brief discussion on Promotional Items was given.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3:37 p.m. by Chairperson, Chris Wright.

Action Items:

None.

Discussion Items:

1. Field Allocation Update

Staff has approximately 85% of the field allocations for 2012 finished. This is the first season that the Staff of Parks and Recreation has allocated all the fields; i.e., the baseball fields, the softball fields, the sports complexes, the pocket parks and the elementary school fields. Staff met with certain user groups regarding the increased fees for 2012. Most of the user groups are content with their league times and all have received their tournament times. However, one user group did not show up to the user group allocation meeting. Discussion was had regarding Spokane currently having more State tournaments than in past years. Discussion was had regarding the cost recovery of the fields. There was discussion on a particular user group having recently sent a letter to Park Board Members expressing their concerns about the 2012 fees. It was suggested that Staff respond to the letter, rather than Park Board Members. It was suggested that the letter advise the user group that the fee rates will not be taken up again for 2012 season, however, they are welcome to comment on the proposed fees for 2013 when that issue is addressed in 2012. There was discussion on informing the public how much money Parks and Recreation actually subsidizes its programs so that the fee rates make sense to the general public. There was discussion on whether or not the fee increases affected tournament booking. There have not been any concerns from the Regional Sports Commission regarding how Parks and Recreation allocated the tournament play.

2. Aquatics Facilities, "Make -A- Splash" Update

Staff has been getting ready for the 2012 swim season. Swimsuits have been secured from a program based foundation, USA Swimming. Staff has also been working on fundraising to provide free swim lessons similar to the lessons that were provided last summer at West Central. Staff is working with Make-A-Splash to see if the Salvation Army will help distribute the aquatics passes. In 2012, staff will improve on tracking the Make-A-Splash passes. The goal for 2012 is to get more pass holders to use the pools more than one or two times. There were approximately 1,100 passes turned in for pool use. Discussion was had regarding sponsoring a child with a swimsuit, swim lessons along with the free passes so that kids will want to come to the pools. It was requested that staff provide the attendance numbers for the 2011 season to the Recreation Committee members. There was discussion on the warranty issues and the winterization of the pools with ALC. Four of the six pools have been winterized with epoxy injections and filled with water. Cannon and Shadle did not receive the epoxy injections but will in the spring. All six pools will be re-plastered in the

spring before the season opens. Comstock was not holding water but the link seals around the pipe were resealed and now it is holding water. Shadle's catch pool for the slide was delaminated and a warranty letter was sent to the contractor for repair. There is a meeting set in December with Staff, the contractor and the engineers. Park and Recreation will continue to follow the suggested winterization protocol for the pools.

3. Center Funding Committee Update

The next meeting of the Center Funding Committee is set for January 26th at the North East Community Center at 5 p.m. The Mayor-Elect has not yet been briefed on this current Mayor initiated process. Hopefully the Mayor-Elect will be supportive of the process. There was discussion regarding the Recreation Committee meetings at different Community Centers throughout 2012 may not work during the budget discussion months of July through September. During those months, the Recreation Committee will be held at City Hall. The agenda for the meetings that will be held at the Centers will consist of regular business, excepting approximately fifteen minutes for the Centers to do a presentation on their center.

Standing Report items:

1. The Revenue/Expense Monthly Report was distributed. Rebecca Madany reviewed the report. Recreation is currently at approximately 60/40% cost recovery for the year. Recreation needs to work toward cost recovery of 70/30%. The cost recovery percentages under the Road Map to the Future may need to be revisited during the current economic times. Staff will look at what the capacity is in relation to what our cost recovery is. The Recreation Committee members requested a back-up plan to cover 2013 revenue deficits.
2. Roadmap to the Future Action Items – No update given.
3. Promotion Ideas –Mike Aho distributed a document that discusses that registration numbers are down, however, the amount spent per person went up. Discussion was had regarding getting the registration numbers up while maintaining the amount that each person spends.
4. Community/Senior Centers Update – See Discussion Item #3.
5. Athletic Field Operations – See Discussion Item #1.

Meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 5, 2011, at 3:30 p.m. at the Sinto Senior Center Dining Room, 1124 W. Sinto.