

Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

4:30 pm

May 8, 2017

Present: President Susan VanderVeen & Commissioner John Frankenthal

Staff: Nicole Vickers, Mickey Boyle, Keith Schmerer, Kelly Wales, Becky Densmore, Elliott Bortner, Sarah Sielisch, Ryan Husch & Joann Able

- Supt. of Recreation Nicole Vickers welcomed Ms. VanderVeen and Mr. Frankenthal. She explained that the meeting would cover Fall 2016 and Winter 2016-17 seasons, as well as the yearly goals for the recreation department. Ms. Vickers then asked the supervisors to present their reports for both Fall and Winter. In both seasons we were up in net profit & participation.
- Sunset Facility Manager/Fitness Supervisor Joann Able: Ms. Able oversees facility operations at Sunset Community Center and Fitness programming. **Fall 2016/Winter 2016-17:** Ms. Able reported that revenue for both Fall and Winter was comparable to the prior year, with participation levels being a bit lower in the Fall and comparable to previous years in the Winter. Ms. Able analyzed Fitness classes & their associated fees and raised those fees in certain areas this spring to better meet our revenue goals and to cover expenses.
- Recreation/Aquatic Supervisor Sarah Sielisch: Ms. Sielisch is responsible for Friendship Station Preschool, assisting Mr. Boyle with overseeing both Sunset & Mill Creek pools & many of our Special Events. **Fall 2016/Winter 2016-17:** Halloween Hayday had an increase in participation with 620 attendees this past year & Harvest Hustle was a successful event even though we had a slight decrease in participation. The new timing company did a very good job & we plan to continue using them moving forward. Our Polar Express Story Time Train event was again sold out, profitable & extremely successful. Pizza Palooza participation saw an increase. Super Shuffle saw a decrease in participation, however the event went very well with the new additions of fruit at the finish line & a raffle at the post party. The Just Dad n' Me Dance continues to be one of our more popular events with 1,031 participants this year. Mom & Son had a lot more participation than we have in past years & we incorporated more activities this year including a robotics station. We continue to review our evaluations & take the suggestions of participants into consideration to increase popularity of our events. President VanderVeen inquired as to how registration for this upcoming Preschool year is going & Ms. Sielisch along with Ms. Vickers gave a brief overview.
- Athletic Supervisor Keith Schmerer: Mr. Schmerer's responsibilities are Gymnastics, Tumbling, liaison for the Geneva Baseball Association, managing use of Western and Harrison gyms, overseeing outdoor athletic fields, assisting with the 5K races & managing Mini-Golf. **Fall 2016/Winter 2016-17:** The Gymnastics cancellation rate was much lower for Fall/Winter than in prior years & profit increased. Boys & Girls Basketball numbers greatly increased this year & it was so popular we added a spring league.
- SPRC Facility Manager/Aquatics Manager Mickey Boyle: Mr. Boyle oversaw Stephen D. Persinger Recreation Center, Sunset and Mill Creek Pools, as well as Parents' Night Out and Men's Basketball and co-ed Volleyball leagues. **Fall 2016/Winter 2016-17:** Mr. Boyle reported that we started offering our Parent's Night Out program twice a month & while we met our minimums to run them we need to reevaluate how often we offer the program to make it more profitable. Adult Basketball increased in both Fall and Winter. Volleyball experienced a significant growth this year which required expanding to two nights. Pickleball participation continues to grow, as well as our open gym.
- Recreation Coordinator Becky Densmore: Ms. Densmore oversees Teen programming, Day-off Trips & some Special Events. She also assists Ms. Wales with Kids' Zone, Specialty Camps and Summer Camps. **Fall 2016/Winter 2016-17:** Teen programming options increased, as well as our overall

participation. The Babysitting for Success course that we offer & our Marathon Club both continue to be very popular. The Day-off Trip program has skyrocketed due in large part to us now marketing through Kid's Zone.

- Recreation Supervisor Elliott Bortner: Mr. Bortner's areas of responsibility were Toddler, Youth, Adult, Family, Cultural Arts and some Special Events. **Fall 2016**: Hello Santa was successful as always & we were able to call 62 children. Zombie Apocalypse saw a decrease in profit & participation due to the Cubs World Series game being that night, as we had high participation at the beginning of the event with it tapering off drastically once the game started. Top box scores went up & we worked with the School of Art to paint the volunteers faces & the scenes at the safe zones. Toddler classes went up slightly in both participation & profit. Youth programming numbers were comparable to the previous year. Adult programming was down in revenue & participation due to a few classes not running that had in prior years. We are now partnering with Vargo Dance Studio to hopefully get those numbers up moving forward. Cultural Arts had a significant increase in profit & participation with several successful productions. **Winter 2016-17**: Toddler programming was consistent in profitability, even though participation was down slightly due to combining the classes from two sessions into one. Youth programming saw an increase in participation, but similar in profitability. Cultural Arts again had a significant increase again due to the success of the productions.
- SPRC Customer Service Manager Ryan Husch: Mr. Husch's responsibilities include managing the front desk staff at SPRC, booking our Birthday Parties as well as managing that staff.
- Recreation Supervisor Kelly Wales: Ms. Wales' responsibilities include Kids' Zone, Summer Camp, Day-off Trips, and supervises Ms. Densmore's Teen program area.
- Recreation Supervisor Beth Keen: Ms. Vickers reported for Ms. Keen who is responsible for Dance, Cheer, Contracted Athletics and supervises Senior Coordinator, Diane Rowe. **Fall 2016/Winter 2016-17**: Martial Arts programming continues along steadily as in prior years. Volleyball & wrestling were popular again this past winter & numbers were similar. Dance has seen some decline due in large part to competition in the area. We continue to market the program in hopes to rebound in participation.
- Ms. Vickers addressed the goals, commenting that, as is the case with the Master Plan, many items are retained from year in order to keep them ever-present in the minds of staff. She went on the review the goals from 2016-17, highlighting some specific items, and presented the 2017-18 goals. Ms. Vickers commented on how great of a job staff have done to develop our Cultural Arts program over this past year, how well they all did with incorporating the new registration software & recognized them for all of their hard work in helping to obtain our highest score yet in assisting with the Distinguished Agency Accreditation. Both Commissioner Frankenthal & President VanderVeen thanked the staff for their hard work & expressed that they should be proud of all they do. Ms. Vickers closed the meeting by thanking Ms. VanderVeen and Mr. Frankenthal for their time, attention and input.

Secretary