

STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 12, 2023

TO: Ty Lasher, City Manager & Bel Aire Governing Body

FROM: Brian Hayes, Recreation Director

RE: March Activities

Recreation

- A near record 182 participants continue their Coed Indoor Soccer season which runs until April 15th.
- Pickleball participation was up a bit with 298 compared to 283 participants last month.
- Taekwondo participation was up with 25 students compared to 18 in February.
- Tippi Toes Dance participation was steady with 13 participants.
- 22 Happy Feet Soccer & TGA Golf participants will continue their spring sessions through late April.
- Exercise classes were steady with 24 participants.
- 4 Wichita Heights Junior Baseball/Softball League teams began practicing in March compared to 5 teams last year. Games will begin in May and will run through July,
- The first ever state licensed Spring Break Camp was held in March. The capacity was set at 15 due to staffing and was at capacity.
- We are currently accepting applications for Summer Camp staffing. The two full-time seasonal staff from last summer will be returning but 2 additional part-time group leaders will need to be hired. Over 30 applications have been submitted.
- March drop-in use was slightly up with 571 compared to 540 in February.
- The Spring Festival was a great way to kick off this year's community events! There were an estimated 1800 people that came to enjoy festivities at the Bel Aire Rec Center. Around 600 kids participated in the egg hunts, inflatables, games, kite flying, temporary tattoos, and pictures with the Bunny.
- The Parks Master Plan survey will be open until April 19. The link has been published in the Breeze, social media, city website, on flyers in the March water bill and on signs at the Spring Festival and in the parks. A community open house will be scheduled soon.
- Work continues on the athletic fields. Herbicide has been applied and mowing has begun. Rec staff & volunteer groups continue to pick-up rocks out of the red shale on the infields. Fertilizer will be applied after the bermudagrass comes out of dormancy.
- Upcoming Rec programs include Blastball, T Ball, and Machine Pitch Baseball.

Seniors

- A record 933 seniors participated in Tai Chi, cards, line & folk dance, book club, exercise, sewing, walking, educational, & special activities and others compared to 740 last month.
- Special programs included a lunch with live music, dice bingo, and marble painting. 5 educational sessions were also held.
- Upcoming Senior activities include several craft activities, two outings, several presentations, as well as the many ongoing programs, mailings and virtual activities.

Swimming Pool

- We continue to meet with the returning pool manager to discuss the upcoming season. We will need to hire 3-5 lifeguards which is now posted on Indeed and the Breeze. 7 applications have been submitted so far.
- Pool prep work will begin later this month.

