

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 14, 2022

TO: Ty Lasher, City Manager
Bel Aire City Council

FROM: Brian Hayes, Recreation Director

RE: **May Activities**

Recreation

- We finally completed all the requirements for Summer Day Camp and received our KDHE license on May 26th just in time to open camp up on May 31st. The first week had 24 campers and started the summer off with a bang. Staff continues to learn their new roles and are adapting as challenges come up.
- 20 Blastball participants completed their season on May 5th.
- Tippi Toes Dance and Happy Feet Soccer also completed their spring seasons in May.
- 228 youth on 20 teams are participating in T-Ball, Baseball, & Softball compared to 180 on 16 teams last year. Games are scheduled into early July.
- Pickleball was down a bit with 244 compared to 277 last month.
- Taekwondo was steady with 18 students compared to 21 last month.
- Exercise classes were steady with 18 compared to 17 last month.
- April daily use was slightly down with 545 compared to 590 last month. 81 paid day fees, 296 were pass holders, and 213 participated in various senior activities.
- Outdoor field maintenance and routine mowing has been greatly affected by all the recent rain. Some areas are still underwater and weeds continue to get worse. Treatment will take place as conditions allow.
- A new Recreation Coordinator was hired and begins June 6th. Jeremiah Lawrie attended Emporia State University and studied Sports Leadership & Recreation. We have been without this position for nearly a year and a half and look forward to bringing Jeremiah aboard.
- Current & upcoming programs include Happy Feet Soccer, Tippi Toes Dance, Basketball Mini-Camps, & the annual Bel Aire Ball.

Seniors

- 644 seniors participated in line & folk dance, sewing, walking, bridge, exercise, arts & crafts, book club, a dinner, several educational presentations & special events compared to 722 last month. Nearly 30 seniors enjoyed a trip to Botanica and a master gardener presentation on flowers at the Rec Center.

- On May 26th the board of the Senior Club had made arrangements to inventory their belongings stored at the Rec Center. Without a word to Rec staff, they instead packed up everything and left. We later were told by one of their participants that they were unhappy with the 2022 funding policy and found another place to meet separate from the city.

Seniors continued,

- Staff continues to engage Bel Aire Seniors with weekly and monthly emails and newsletters. Every week virtual tours of interesting venues, fun activities, upcoming programs and useful information are presented.
- Upcoming Senior programs include the regular ongoing activities and several new educational & special events including a cookout and a presentation from the Great Plains Nature Center

Swimming Pool

- Rec Staff completed minimal repairs in time for the Memorial weekend opening of the Central Park Pool.
- Staff orientation and training was held on May 25th. This year staff consists of 7 returning and 2 new guards.
- Unfortunately the opening was hampered a bit due to cool air and water temperatures but the few who did brave the conditions enjoyed the opportunity to jump in. Despite the low number of swimmers many did show up to register for swimming lessons, summer pool passes and pool rentals.

