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Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Adam Huehnergath, Parks and Recreation Manager
RE: Monthly Directors Report September 2024
CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator
Date: October 21st, 2024

Aquatic Center:

The Aquatic Center financials are included in this packet. From a high-level view it looks like a successful year and the bottom line is better than previous years. Some things stand out to me. We did a good job of lowering expenses with supplies, maintenance and repairs. That magnifies the work of the city crew in going through the whole pool in the fall and spring to identify issues and correct them before they become problems and expensive. The increase in part-time salaries is mostly attributed to the pool being open eight extra days in 2024 vs last year and an extra week of lessons. With the help of extra lessons and a few more pool parties, the revenue increased even with attendance going down 10%. Last year's attendance was affected greatly by the wet, cold early part of the summer. In June/July of 2024 we had 18 rainy days compared to only 6 in 2023. There are some ideas for increasing revenue through attendance and parties and for lowering variable expenses. I am going through all the numbers and investigating other aquatic centers in our area to formulate plans to put in front of the Parks & Rec Commission for review.

Flag Football:

Last Monday were the final games for the NFL Flag Football Dyersville League. We had four teams in both the 1st/2nd and 3rd/4th leagues. This was the first year for the younger kids and it went exceptionally well. The group of coaches had a lot of patience, and the kids learned the basics of football and had a blast at the same time. The second year of the older group saw big jumps in the quality of the games. The returning 4th graders from last year know the game so much better from the start of last year. It will be interesting to watch this program grow as the coaches and players become familiar with plays and skills for flag football.

Westside Improvements:

As you can tell by just driving by, there is significant activity at Westside Park. The pathways between the ballfields and walkways to parking should be completed soon. The new dugouts and lights on Field #1 are starting also. With the rain last spring/summer, those areas became a mess early and deteriorated throughout the summer. Standing water and washed-out areas were a menace for our league games and weekend tournaments alike. Accessibility for some was an issue. Paving this area will compare Westside to the other two baseball/softball areas. There are tournaments planned for 14 weekends next summer utilizing that area starting May 3rd/4th and running through the end of September. This is a great addition for our leagues and visitors.