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Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Adam Huehnergath, Parks and Recreation Manager
RE: Monthly Directors Report July 2024
CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator
Date: August 19, 2024

Girls Soccer League:

Last Wednesday started the new All-Girls Dyersville Soccer League. The teams consist of girls in 6th-8th grade. There are three teams from Dyersville, two from Epworth/Farley and one from Guttenberg. After the 1st week of games, excitement is high, and a general discussion is happening if separating the genders is desirable and practical for the older ages. This year we have seen many girls decide to play again after quitting in past years or try soccer for the first time since it is an all-girls league. The coaches have also stated that this gives them an opportunity to practice and play in different positions that they wouldn't in a co-ed league. After the season we will do a survey with the coaches and the participants to see the positives and figure out improvements if we are going to continue this structure.

Aquatic Center:

The Aquatic Center's last day was Sunday, August 18th and ended with our annual Doggy Dip with pets allowed to enjoy the pool. The weather this summer seemed to hinder attendance. When we did have a hot day it always either stormed or threatened to storm in the late afternoon. The two new managers (Shelby Krogman and Lexi Kramer) did a great job navigating lifeguarding and managing duties with a very short staff. The goal for next summer is to have more lifeguards to fill out the schedule. Most of the lifeguards worked more than they planned and/or wanted to. I have had discussions with the two managers and the head lifeguards and have a list of recommendations to focus on. A lot of the things I would like to improve are primarily tied to having adequate staff. That will be the main focus. Again, big thanks to Terry Recker the other CPO who got the pool ready and kept it running perfect. The pool was never closed for chemical imbalance or maintenance issues.

Soccer Saturday:

Saturday the 17th started the annual tradition of "Soccer Saturday." Over 1000 kids from around the area will play at Westside Park this year. There are 88 teams from Dyersville, Peosta, Epworth/Farley, Cascade, Guttenberg and new this year Manchester. Our 7 fields will host 44 matches each Saturday. The regular season lasts 6 weeks with playoffs scheduled for September 28th and October 5th. Thanks to Russ Wolfe who organizes all the referees and keeps control of the action every Saturday. We have a few new referees coming on board this fall. Westside park will be a busy place for the next eight weeks.