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Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Adam Huehnergath, Parks and Recreation Manager
RE: Monthly Directors Report November 2024
CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator
Date: December 16th, 2024

Aquatic Center:

I attended a two-day Aquatic Facility Operator course and passed the assessment recently and learned more knowledge to operate pools efficiently. I am making plans for the 2025 season and am looking for a few subtle changes. I am going to start advertising and sourcing the pool staff in January. Having adequate staff next summer will help with some revenue-generating programs and help alleviate staff burnout towards the end of the season.

With the help of the Parks & Rec Commission, we have discussed some improvements that have been discussed for many years. We are looking to add a few outdoor games to the two grassy areas that used to have sand volleyball. The games will be angled towards the 5–12-year-old age group and include games like tetherball, bags and hoop basketball types.

Finally, we are hoping to add shade structures to the pool deck. This has been talked about for many years. Combining the angle of the sun and the limited pool deck surface around the zero-depth area of the pool, options for impactful shade are limited. The same company that made the shade structures for Xavier School is working on a plan for us. I should have that plan next week. The lead time for that product is around 3 months.

Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Meet:

I am putting the plan together to have another track meet for kids 3-14 years old. Again, this is a free event for kids across the area. First and second place in each event earns the right to participate in a state level track meet held in Marshalltown in June. The last two years we have held it on a Saturday in early May. We have found we missed a lot of kids that wanted to run but had prior commitments for baseball tournaments held on most Saturdays. With the help of Todd Troutman at Beckman, we decided to hold this event on a Wednesday evening again in early May. The exact date will be finalized after we see when other towns are having their event and when the track will be available at Beckman HS. We will also move Prairie League games for baseball/softball for that night to help that event grow. Last year we had over eighty-five participants.