



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION DEPARTMENT REPORT

TO: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager
FROM: Bob Beatty, Director
DATE OF MEETING: March 4, 2024
ITEM TITLE: Department Report – Parks & Recreation

Parks:

We are currently advertising summer positions. We have had a rash of vandalism in the parks, with spray paint, a dog bag station was destroyed, and three sponsor signs on the disc golf course were broken. Staff have been busy in the parks cleaning up Park grounds before the mowing season. Benches were placed on First Street, fall flower planters were picked up, and staff installed all the new 360 flower planters downtown.

Forestry:

We are currently working on the 2024 Tree planting plan. We will need to find a grant to do the plantings along Liberty Trail.

Dog Park:

The dog park shelter has been a tremendous success. We have definitely seen an uptick in winter usage with the mild temperatures. We are mailing reminder cards to former members to encourage renewals.

River'sEDGE:

All the uniforms and fittings are complete. The softball teams' schedules are all complete and hope to finish baseball this week. We had nearly 70 teams compete in our annual bags fundraiser. Teams brought in over \$4000 in silent auctions, and we had an incredibly good night at the concession stand. The staff did an amazing job and we finished just after midnight.

Recreation:

Kickball and soccer programs have finished their season. We are currently advertising all summer programming. We have made some alterations to Little League schedules and hope it will free up some more diamond space for practices. We typically have 50+ little league teams and also have 24 travel teams and are about 2 fields away from having enough space especially when games start.

Falcon Civic Center:

The FCC has remained busy. The 24-hour membership continues to grow. We have restricted use to those above the age of 16 and this seems to have cut down on some of the messes and overall behavior problems. We just feel like those under 16 likely don't need to be in here after hours without a parent or sibling of age.

Aquatic Center:

Staff (Brent, Angie, Clark) all attended their CEU for their CPO license. Angie attended an Aquatics Network meeting to engage with other communities. Sharing programming, rules, and other ideas for Aquatic Centers around the state.

RV Park:

We made it through the winter without any water lines freezing or breaking. Seems like the water line is deep enough to survive winter as long as the hydrants are not left on, they will drain back. It was a mild winter, but we experienced no issues even during the cold snaps as long as users followed the rules.

Complex:

The backstop extensions (for field naming signs) are going up this week. Field 5 fencing and backstop are also nearing completion. The contractor should be back in March to begin all the dirt work and seeding. Our first tournament is on May 12. We have been dealing with several companies to offer live streaming at our facilities. Cost estimates have been anywhere from 35-90k which just puts it out of our range. We did find a company that sells the cameras and they signed with NBC Sports (sports engine) and after meeting with both companies and due to our ability to operate many events the streaming company has offered to purchase the two-camera system for each one of our fields and to pay the \$2500 subscription for the streaming on each field for 5 years for **FREE**. I have met with Kevin Sidles, and they will be installing the system and hopefully have a Zoom meeting to make sure they have all of the installation details. We will be responsible for the installation of the system. We will also get 10% of the streaming revenue throughout the 5 years. We are excited as we feel this puts us at a huge competitive advantage for bringing tournaments and events to our facility. They will be sending a contract to sign this week.

Cemetery:

No Updates