



Date: October 6, 2022
To: Glenn Steckman, City Manager
From: (u) Chip Leeper, Director of Parks and Recreation
CC: Bryant Hammond, City Clerk
Cheryl Thompson, Administrative Assistant

Subject: Parks and Recreation Department Quarterly Report (July-September '22)

Nome Recreation Center

Busy, busy, busy was the theme of the Nome Recreation Center last quarter. Starting with the second session (with the first half being the month prior) of Summercise and continuing through the beginning of fall the calendar was chock full of events, programs and sport's leagues.

In addition to Summercise, July also saw us finally get our youth softball program back up and running. After long delays involving Covid-19 and the construction of our new field it seemed like the day would never come.

Registration and turnout were light but we are optimistic that next season will see participation numbers rebound to pre-pandemic numbers.

The turn of the calendar to August brought the return of the Challenge Life Basketball Camp back to Nome. The camp is offered through a collaborative effort between Nome Eskimo Community and the City of Nome Department of Parks and Recreation.

Always a great event the camp teaches local youth about the importance of healthy living and making positive lifestyle choices along with basketball instruction and drills. This year's camp ran from August 8th through the 12th.

Other events that month included the Berry Festival on August 24th and a Celebration of Life for Barbara Mazonna on August 13th.

The weekend after Labor Day the Nome Recreation Center resumed their 7-day a week winter schedule by re-opening on Saturdays and Sundays. As usual, weekend use started a little sluggishly before picking up a bit toward the end of the month.

The Fall Co-Ed Volleyball League kicked off in early September with 12 teams competing across two divisions: Competitive (8 teams) and Recreational (4 teams). The regular season



will run through the end of October with a single-elimination postseason tournament the first week of November.

There was a one-week pause in the middle of the season as the facility had to put on one of its other hats. After the remnants of Typhoon Merbok hit Nome and caused significant flooding within the community we became the town's emergency shelter housing some residents that were displaced from their homes and apartments.

All-in-all we served in the capacity for approximately a week starting on Friday, September 16th and running through Thursday, September 22nd when we closed it down.

Nome Swimming Pool

The quarter began with the facility hosting the second session of Summercise but other than that there were few public programs offered to the community during the summer months due to a major shortage of staff.

During the downtime a lot of effort was focused on finalizing the plan to return to a more traditional ozone/chlorine disinfection system. As popular as the current salt-based system is it is doing massive damage to the pools mechanical, piping and infrastructure systems.

To do the job the City of Nome and Nome Public Schools have hired Polar Pools. Based out of Eagle River the company has done some previous work in the mechanical room a couple of years ago.

Once September hit we were able to start offering more programs. Nome Northstar Swim Team was able to begin their season with some preseason practices and NACTEC resumed offering safety swim classes as part of their daily curriculum. Nome-Beltz High School is doing a couple of classes monthly as well.

The one program that didn't return was the High School Varsity Swim Team as no students signed up to participate.

Golden Strike Bowling Alley

Business has been sparse after the Golden Strike Bowling Alley reopened on Friday, September 16th. While open bowling traffic has been slow there have been a couple of birthday parties to somewhat offset the sluggish start.