



**Date:** January 19, 2022  
**To:** Glenn Steckman, City Manager  
**CC:** Bryant Hammond, City Clerk  
Cheryl Thompson, Administrative Assistant  
**From:** Chip Leeper, Director of Parks and Recreation  
**Re:** Quarterly Report  
**Reporting Period:** October 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

### Nome Recreation Center

Not a whole lot to report from the past quarter. Foot traffic and facility usage was steady though it did wane a bit when community covid-19 infection numbers were on the rise and then steadily rose again after restrictions were lifted.

Otherwise things hummed along with the continuation of the adult co-ed volleyball league. Started in mid-September, the season wrapped up with long-time league participant Bant2, 3, 4's taking home the title. A special thanks to Season Haugen who refereed every regular and post-season game.

We also hosted Original Productions in mid-October. Due to inclement weather the producers of the popular *Bering Sea Gold* show needed a place to conduct their end-of-season wrap-up interviews.

After checking out the bowling alley they thought it would be ideal. In short work they turned the dining area into a sound studio where that could complete their work.

On the maintenance side of things a new boiler was installed by Emmons Mechanical with an assist from Pomeranz Construction and PK Electric. The former prepped the site, built a concrete pad and installed a new access door while the latter cleaned up some of the Byzantine electrical lines already in place and ran some additional lines for the new unit.

All this was needed because back in June the existing boiler was found spewing glycol. This led to a closer inspection of the unit resulting in the discovery that one of the boiler sections had fractured. Replacement parts were unavailable due to the age of the boiler necessitating a new one be found and installed.

After some deliberation a boiler manufactured by De Dietrich was selected. The original one was a Weil-McLain but due to production delays we were unable to go with a similar unit given the time constraints in place to have it in place before winter arrived.

Director of Parks and Recreation attended the annual Alaska Recreation and Park Association conference down in Soldotna from October 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



## Nome Swimming Pool

Much like the Nome Recreation Center the past quarter was fairly routine. Due to covid-19 restrictions we were limited in our ability to schedule Open and Family Swims instead deciding to focus on offering private family unit rentals in an effort to limit interaction among those from different households.

These proved to be fairly popular and were held most weekends when senior lifeguards were available.

The Nome Northstar Swim Team began practicing again in October. The team is comprised of three different age levels and lasts through April. They practice 4 days a week and have several meets on the schedule this season.

On October 10<sup>th</sup> an American Red Cross Lifeguard certification was hosted by the pool. In all three lifeguards were certified (Guadalupe Zaragoza, Mel Woehler and Bode Leeper).

Another important project was also checked off the list when Polar Pools and owner Bob Walker returned to Nome with his team of technicians and divers to do some testing on the pool.

Their goals were to access the structural integrity of the pool basin and deck as well conduct an investigation to determine if they could find a source of the on-going water loss that has been happening for a long time.

After several days of work they reported their results. Overall the structural condition of the pool was in pretty good shape for its age and should be okay for the foreseeable future. They also determined which section of the pool's gutter system had been compromised resulting in majority of the water loss (evaporation being the other source).

While here they also reiterated the importance of changing out the current salt cell sanitation system with a more traditional chlorine feed system with an ozone back-up. We are optimistic we can have this done over the summer when the pool shut down in August and some grant funding assistance can be procured.