

CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

Agenda Item: Consider approval of a fee discount or waiver for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner put on by the Women of the ELCA and other community volunteers.

Committee Review: Park Board

Meeting Date: September 22nd, 2025

Requested by: Jodi Mieden- Recreation Director

Background: A Community Thanksgiving Dinner has been held at St. John's Church for as long as they have been doing it. The number of roasters needed to cook food has surpassed their facility as they must use all levels of the church for outlets needed. They have outgrown their space with the increase in meals each year. The gym/kitchen would provide volunteers with one level to work on and much more space to work in, as well as ample parking for pick-ups. 550 meals will be served to the residents of Richland Center this year, up 60 from last year. A free will offering would be accepted. Delivery service is provided by volunteers.

All funds for the meal are donated, and any leftovers are donated to needy groups in the community.

Lara Carpenter provides weekly Chair Yoga classes for the seniors at no cost and has been donating her time and skills on a volunteer basis for many years. She, along with Clare Bruckner and Patty Libansky head up the planning and execution department, soliciting donations and volunteers, cooking and distributing as well as donating back. Payment would come out of the donations they receive for the meal itself.

Department Recommendation: Approve the fee waiver or discount for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner committee's use of the gym and kitchen for the event.

Financial Impact: \$390.00

Requested Action:

PARK BOARD: