

Recreation Commission Minutes
Monday April 22, 2024 7:30pm

Members Present: Briggs, Brubaker, Hanna, Ganim, and Lazaridis

Members Absent: Boulware, and Gawlik

Also Present: Mayor Kingston, Rachele Engle, Luis Pena, Jamie Mewhinney, Tom and Meg English, and Carolyn Jatsek

Minutes: Approval of March 18, 2024 Minutes, Motioned by Ganim, seconded by Hanna

Mayor's Report: none

Council Report:

Councilman Ganim wished everyone a happy earth day and thanked everyone who attended and supported the City Earth Day event on Sunday. He congratulated Recreation Commission Member Denise Gawlik who was award the Citizen of the Year at the Mayor's State of the City Address.

Director's Report:

Director Engle reported that the Mother Son Dance, with the Surf;s Up theme had over 185 guests and went well. The City Solar Eclipse event was very well attended. The Recreation Department hosted the games during the event. The South Suburban Montessori School has been partnering with the Recreation Department to have 5 week sessions where the students come to the Community Center once a week for swimming, yoga and taekwondo classes. They do several of these sessions a year as part of the physical education program, and we look forward to continuing this partnership with them in the fall.

Phase one of the Kids Quarter project is prepared to go out to bid, and awarded at the 2nd Council meeting in May. This spring we have made some updates to the child care room, to freshen up the area. Improvements include new paint, furniture, toys, storage and shelving. Come check out the new room!

Athletic Area Report:

The Little Hitter program began this week. Victoria Eder is teaching this 6 week intro to baseball program for preschoolers. There are 55 participants enrolled. The program is held indoors at the Field House so we don't have to worry about fighting the spring weather, and also makes it easier to corral the kids with less distraction, than on the ballfields.

The Brecksville Soccer Academy has 271 kids registered for U3-U8. The U3 age group has been held in the Field House most weeks due to the cooler spring mornings. The U5-U8 is held on the turf. Kids pitch baseball and softball coaches meeting will be this Wednesday to get all the teams organized and practices will begin next week. There are 372 kids currently registered for teeball-high school baseball this year.

Registration is still open for all youth and adult tennis lessons for the summer. All classes will be taught by Center Court Instructors. Registration is still open for Adult Coed Sunday evening Softball and Bocce. Summer camp registration is going strong. Senior camp filled up quickly and we were able to open an additional 10 slots for weeks 2-7. There are still a few weeks with openings for junior camp.

Aquatic Area Report:

The spring session of Learn to Swim will be wrapping up next week. We will be offering a May swim clinic Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Registration for Belugas and summer Learn to swim will open for residents on May 1st and non-residents on May 8th. A parents meeting for belugas will be held on Monday June 3rd.

Joe has been making progress getting the outdoor pool ready. The pool will open Memorial Day weekend, and will be open weekends only until school is out. Staff in-services will be held throughout the month of May for all lifeguards.

CVYO Report:

This spring has been challenging to stay warm and dry. This spring has heightened the need for the turf to be well used. Teams have been mindful of the rules the City has for the turf, including closing the turf during low temperatures to try and help extend the life of the turf. BSA, Lacrosse, Baseball and Softball are all up and running. Spring football is all being held at the High School Facilities. Baseball fields have been doing a nice job of bouncing back with all the wet weather. All sports have been sharing the turf when the fields are wet, so the wet fields do not get torn up.

At the last BSA meeting the question was brought up asking if the City is putting money away each year towards the replacement of the turf. The school has recently begun doing that to save for larger projects.

Meg also mentioned her continued push for a completed 5 year plan.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Public Comments:

None

Adjournment: Motioned by Ganim, seconded by Lazaridis at 7:54pm