

Deerfield Park District
Recreation Center Advisory Committee

Minutes of August 26, 2021

The meeting of the Recreation Center Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video. The following were in attendance:

Present: Alan Barasky, Anne Dickerson, Jay Keltner, Nick Solomon, Ilyse Steiner,
Michael Brown, Jeff Nehila, Laura McCarty, Tony Korzyniewski, Tim Johnson,
Chris Moilanen, James Otto, Russell Clinton

Absent: Steve Bierig, Laurie Gordon, Elizabeth Seward

Matters from the Public

There were no matters from the public.

Review of Minutes

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes of April 22, 2021, with no changes or additions.

General Manager Report

Current SRC COVID-19 Guidelines

As of July 31, 2021, the Deerfield Park District instituted a mask requirement for all facilities for anyone age 2 or older regardless of vaccination status based on county guidelines. Staff is doing their best to enforce this throughout the building.

Board Liaison Brown asked if staff is anticipating other restrictions such as capacity limits and class size limits as the weather turns cooler. Staff responded that we would stay alert for additional mandates and restrictions put in place by federal, state and local agencies and will pivot as necessary. We do plan to keep our class limits at numbers that allow for social distancing.

A reminder that we have the Airphx equipment that provides safer air quality within the facility.

New Tennis Program Provider – Life Sport Management

The Park District has come to an agreement with Life Sport Management to run our tennis programs. We currently have 60 people registered for our group tennis lessons and 50 people registered for private tennis lessons.

Jay asked if we have any idea how people answered the survey regarding the indoor tennis courts and if there was a possibility the courts wouldn't be available for tennis future. Director Nehila responded that our sports affiliates have inquired about use of the indoor courts for programming over the years, so with the timing of the survey, the district thought it was a valuable question to ask to gauge the position of the community. We don't have the results yet but hope to have some raw data next week.

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Whirlpool Update

When we were shut down during the pandemic and reopened in June, we noticed that we had some leaking in the whirlpool. We have an underground survey company coming out to determine the location of the leak. If it is a simple fix and will only require minimal damage to the main pool deck we will repair. If it's a larger issue we will have to determine how much of an investment we want to make long term.

2021 Capital Improvements & Purchases

One main capital expenditure from early this year was the purchase of 8 Airphx units. We also have monies budgeted for new fitness equipment. We have used some of it already and staff is getting quotes for new equipment purchases this fall. We also had monies budgeted for new tables and chairs but may put that on hold until we determine what are needs will be for the fall.

Our FY2022 budget preparation has started. Staff will be looking not only at program and facility budgets but the capital projects and purchases for the facility as well. Staff should have information on the direction we will be going at the October meeting.

RUSH PT, Chicago Sky and North Shore Rhythmic Gymnastics - Updates

RUSH PT has been utilizing the facility 3 days per week but are increasing to 5 days and possibly will increase to includes Saturday as well.

The Chicago Sky is going into their final month of the season. Tony informed the committee that staff has tickets available for all games if anyone is interested just email Tony.

North Shore Rhythmic Gymnastics sent quite a few participants to the Olympics this summer. They were unable to bring home any medals, but the group had a great time. They are preparing for the World Championships and have their sights on the 2024 Olympic Games.

Assistant General Manager Report

Membership Enrollment Update

Our current active membership is at 328 Fitness Floor memberships, 50 Group Exercise memberships and 94 All-Access memberships and 72 90-day Student memberships. The 90-day student memberships will begin expiring as we move into fall. We have 109 more memberships than we had when the committee last met in April.

Group Exercise Survey Results Summary

In July, we sent out a small survey to the current membership. The goal was to get a comfort level for our patrons' feelings on our current classes and platforms offered. 148 surveys were sent out and 104 were returned which is an extremely high response. We received a lot of positive feedback on what we are currently doing. Our patrons love the outdoor fitness but also really love the Zoom classes. We have plans to bring in instructors to record and

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post classes. This will help us control lighting, sound and background interference during classes. We also actively solicit responses from patrons on a daily basis.

September Group Exercise Schedule

For September we will be running 9 outdoor classes, 16 indoor classes and 13 zoom classes. All the outdoor classes have a back-up plan for inclement weather. The class will either move inside or to a Zoom format.

In addition, we are going to try to add a flash class 3 out of 4 weeks per month. Based on how the class goes, we may add it to our schedule.

Fall Open House

Staff had a plan to do a grand re-opening this fall. With the new mask mandate, we see the hesitancy of our patrons to return indoors. Instead, staff is planning to do customer appreciation activities. Details are forthcoming.

Commented [T11]:

Personal Training Studio

Our new personal training studio is almost complete and will start being utilized soon. The plan is to have the space ready for October 1. We will be purchasing a cable piece of equipment in that space.

Walk, Ride and Roll

We had a contest at the Walk, Ride and Roll event offering a free one-year fitness membership. We had someone win the membership and is excited to start her membership.

Board Liaison Brown asked if staff plans to continue and/or expand our digital formats to allow for people to workout at home on their own schedule. Tim responded that the digital formats will be staying with us and staff will have to see how it evolves. A bonus of Zoom is that if we have an issue with an instructor instead of canceling a class, we can make a call and get an instructor to jump in on Zoom and run the class.

Alan asked about the number of class cancellations. Tim responded that we do not cancel a lot of classes as we move things around and can now change the format to Zoom instead of canceling.

Facility Operations Supervisor Report

Current SRC Operations Overview

The facility hosted a Reuse-A-Rama on June 12. We collected 36 bags of textiles which amounted to 726 lbs., 37 bags of shoes that amounted to 605 lbs., 6 boxes of books which equaled 650 books and collected a good number of eyeglasses.

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Gym rentals have returned. Starting in September we will have one gym rental per day. Staff continues to receive rental inquiries on a daily basis.

Small birthday parties have resumed but without food.

Coho has returned and is utilizing the pool for their practices.

On Wednesday, September 8 our facility hours will expand. Monday – Friday we will open from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lead Facility Engineer Report
Annual Wood Floor Maintenance

Our annual wood floor maintenance was performed last week. Staff was able to take advantage of the earlier closing time to refinish the floors in the Group Exercise Studio and the racquetball court.

Annual Pool Maintenance

Our annual pool maintenance was performed last week. The maintenance included a deep cleaning of the pool liner, the filters and the pool deck.

Painting Project Update

Staff has been working on painting the west side of the building from the Bulls Gym to the lobby. Painting should be complete by the end of August.

Other Items

Airphx System Maintenance

Board Liaison Brown asked if we have an outside company that maintains the Airphx system. James responded that the maintenance is performed in-house and includes a monthly replacement of the air filters on the suction side and the ozone chambers need to be replaced annually. The system is checked daily to make sure everything is working properly and the timers are set appropriately.

Community Survey

Director Nehila reported that we have finished the random selection survey and have a statistically valid survey. The same survey is posted on our website as a mechanism to gain more insight.

Solar Power

Director Nehila reported that we are exploring solar panels for the roofs at Sachs. As we redo the roofs, we will explore a variety of solar options that will help the district reduce utility costs.

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The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business or additional discussion, the meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.