

Deerfield Park District

Recreation Center Advisory Committee

Minutes of October 27, 2022

**(1) Call to Order**

The meeting of the Recreation Center Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by General Manager Tony Korzyniewski at the Sachs Recreation Center, Room E-1. The following were in attendance:

Present: Alan Barasky, Anne Dickerson, Lauren Gordon, Jay Keltner, Nicholas Solomon, Ilyse Steiner, Park Board Commissioner Michael Brown, Executive Director Jeff Nehila, Director of Recreation Laura McCarty, Deputy Director of Recreation Tony Korzyniewski, SRC Facility Operations Supervisor Chris Moilanen and Fitness Operations Supervisor Amy Kanzler

Absent: Steve Bierig

**(2) Matters from the Public**

There were no matters from the public.

**(3) Review of Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the meeting minutes of August 25, 2022, with no changes or additions.

**(4) General Manager Report**

**(4)(a) SRC Open House Recap – October 18 through 20**

Deputy Director Korzyniewski reported that the SRC open house was a great success. There were over 100 unique visitors to the facility and staff was nonstop busy conducting facility tours. Ultimately, staff was able to retain 45 new members as a result of the open houses. The marketing of this event via social media proved to be very effective. Staff hopes to replicate this event in January and spring of 2023.

**(4)(b) SRC Promotional Postcard – Early December**

Historically, the District has sent out a SRC promotional postcard to the entire Deerfield community and portions of Northbrook, Highland Park, Bannockburn and Riverwoods. This practice will continue sometime after Thanksgiving with a focus on the new fitness equipment, pickleball courts and the renovated front desk. The postcard will also contain a two-week membership promotion and personal training promotion that will last through the end of January. This has been popular in the past due to New Year's Resolutions.

**(4)(c) Front Desk Renovation Update**

The front desk renovation is complete. Staff is fully situated and content with the changes. It has made a massive difference within the space by opening the space and bringing in natural light.

#### **(4)(d) 2023 SRC Capital Project Planning Update**

The District has a 7-year Capital Improvement Plan in which staff and the Board annually reassess to identify and act upon large scale projects. In 2023, the District will be replacing the lag boiler at the SRC. Furthermore, there are some internal and external cosmetic improvements slated to be made to freshen up the facility.

#### **(5) Fitness Operations Supervisor Report**

##### **(5)(a) November-December 2022 Group Exercise Schedule**

Fitness Operations Supervisor Amy Kanzler circulated the updated group exercise schedule effective November 1<sup>st</sup>. Minor changes have been made due to staff availability and participation levels. There are roughly 44 group exercise classes offered on a weekly basis and staff is seeking to expand upon these offerings by hiring additional group exercise instructors.

Supervisor Kanzler then expanded upon the fitness and nutritional offerings discussed in the Winter Programming Guide which has since been released.

##### **(5)(b) Personal Training/Nutritional Counseling Update**

As Deputy Director Korzyniewski mentioned, staff will be offering an introductory promotion for personal training in an attempt to target new clients. This promotion will be offered mid-November and individuals will have until January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, to redeem. This will be open to members and nonmembers alike. Nonmembers receiving personal training normally receive a 25% fee increase but staff has decided to waive the fee increase for this particular offering.

The last Nutritional Seminar of the year will take place November 6<sup>th</sup> and discuss Gut Health. In January, there is a seminar scheduled entitled 23 Health Tips and Strategies for 2023. These seminars will continue to be offered for free to the community. Participation remains low and staff is working on improved ways to increase interest for the events.

Kim Blum, the SRC's registered Dietitian, will also be leading an accountability series.

##### **(5)(c) Upcoming Fitness & Wellness Programming**

The SRC will be hosting its annual Turkey Buster Workout on Thanksgiving morning. It is a series of group fitness classes to encourage participants to be active prior to Thanksgiving dinner. This event is free so long as the participant brings two canned food items.

Upcoming offerings include a Weight Loss Challenge at the beginning of the new year.

In March of 2023, staff will be offering a youth triathlon.

A Committee member suggested a "Ted Talk" about different activities such as pickleball or HIIT to drum up interest and introduce individuals to the activity so they may feel more inclined to commit to it. He suggested these events be held during the weekend or weeknights as to not conflict with busy work schedules.

#### **(6) Facility Operations & Membership Supervisor Report**

##### **(6)(a) SRC Membership Enrollment Update**

SRC Facility Operations Supervisor Chris Moilanen reported that there are 100 new members as of this month, in part due to the success of the SRC Open House for a total of 824 active members. This has been the highest member count since the pandemic.

**(6)(b) Current SRC Operations Overview**

There were over 600 individual lap swim reservations for the month, 50 individual basketball rentals, 7 parties and 30 individual pickleball rentals. Staff is fielding roughly 5-6 pickleball requests per day. The majority of tennis rentals right now are private lessons.

There was a brief discussion regarding how far the District can expand pickleball offerings without upsetting the balance between tennis and pickleball rentals. It was suggested that temporary lines be implemented in the Sky Gym to accommodate pickleball players. Supervisor Moilanen noted that there have been many more membership inquires due to the open pickleball time included as part of the SRC membership.

Deputy Director Korzyniewski further reported that Movement Revolution, a therapy group for individuals with Parkinson's disease, will be renting space two days a week from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. as their operations have increased and they need more room to accommodate their clients.

**(7) Lead Facility Engineer Report**

In Lead Facility Engineer Sesar Botello's absence, Deputy Director Korzyniewski reported that the District was able to recognize a substantial cost savings due to his handiness assisting in the main lobby renovation. Miguel Gomez, the Custodial Supervisor, and Sesar are both relatively new additions to the District and staff is incredibly pleased with their performance.

**(8) Other Items**

**Advisory Committee Member Term Length**

Deputy Director Korzyniewski advised that two Advisory Committee members three-year terms will be ending in April of 2023 and one Advisory Committee member has since moved. He asked that members refer other qualified individuals who may be interested in serving their community.

**(9) The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**

**(10) There being no further business or additional discussion, the meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**