

LEE'S SUMMIT PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES							
	CITY OF LEE'S SUMMIT, MISSOURI						
DATE:	December 9, 2020	TIME:	6:00 PM	PLACE: Via Videoconf	ference		
Board Mem	pers Present:	Board Mem	bers Absent:	Staff Present:	Ot	Other Guests:	
Mindy Auler	nbach, President	Jim Huser,		Joe Snook	Hil	llary Shields, Council Liaison	
	vins, Vice President	Tyler Morehead		Carole Culbertson	M	egan Crews	
Casey Crawf	ord			David Dean		evin Blazek	
Jon Ellis				Steve Casey		ckie McCormick Heanue	
Wesley Field				Brooke Chestnut		Grace Carson	
Nancy Kelley				Tede Price	Jar	red Greene	
Samantha Sl	nepard			Dana Thurber			
AGENDA ITE	M		(Fir	DISCUSSION ndings/Conclusions)		RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	
Presentation	IS:						
Presentation	Su in Ru Sr re ar M pa st Ja Pr gl ea	upervisor and volved in Sum uth Buckland nook expresse ecognize empl nd Jared are fa ls. Carson tha ast summer w art off as Aqu red Greene th resident Auler ad that the re arned it and c	oversees aquatics mit Waves. Jared is the Administrati d his pride about oyees from all diff airly new to the de nked her staff, Joe as wild but great, atic Supervisor. nanked everyone t nbach stated it is a cipient's fellow co ongratulated them	and everyone in the department, and she couldn't think of a better s that voted. Iways nice to be recognized by oth p-workers chose them to honor. She	s also heavily c Operations. stration. Mr. ff voted to , noting Grace and said the summer to hers and she is e knows they		
Activity Pres	entation Adv w op Ja M Adv ha at m sii ev fir sh pa cr st w be se	ctivity Report as open 10:30 berating hour ckson County lemorial Day w dditionally, du ad no special of tendance. Th ornings. Ther ngle visits not valuated. Add nancial overvit nowed quite a ast was single reated a signif affing, but by ere able to co elow breakeve eason, with se	for Summit Waves bam-11:30am for ( s were 12pm-7pm , opening was dela weekend, and the le to the restrictio events, rentals or g e facility had one S e were higher sea being offered unt itionally, nonresid ew was based on a bit lower revenue visits, but without icant variance in t having lower atte ntrol staffing. The en for the season. ason passes at \$50	s. Mr. Blazek explained this year Su Camp Summit Monday-Thursday an every day of the week. Due to resi ayed until June 27 <sup>th</sup> instead of the r facility was subject to a capacity lir ns surrounding the pandemic, Sum general programming, which result Swim Team that rented the lap poor son pass visits and lower single visi til later in July after capacity limits we ents were not allowed to purchase a calendar year instead of a fiscal y e than previous years. The primary t selling them and having a limited he revenue. The primary expense i ndance, no programming or specia summer concluded with the facilit There were also changes to pricing 0 instead of the scheduled \$80 and cluded as part of the part time min	Immit Waves nd regular trictions from normal mit of 600. Immit Waves ted in lower of in the its due to were passes. The revenue in the number in the past was al events we ty \$149,000 g for the d single visits		



analysis. The Food and Beverage Operations sold only prepackaged items allowing	
for reduced staff, resulting in \$1,000 under breakeven for the season.	
Mr. Blazek reviewed the survey results from the season's operations. Concessions	
rated 3.92 with 15 comments on the surveys, and the most frequent comment	
was the lack of options and wanting more meal options. Depending on	
restrictions in 2021, staff will reevaluate and hopefully bring those items back.	
The slides received 13 comments, mostly related to being dark inside and wanting	
another slide. At the last Park Board meeting, it was determined staff would	
research and budget for a third open slide in the future.	
Membership options received 3.94 which is a higher percentage than in past	
years. Staff believes this may be because the facility was open to Lee's Summit	
residents only with reduced capacity and a lower season pass price. Some	
negative comments were received because the facility opened to only season	
pass holders and a month in it was determined single visits could be sold.	
13 negative comments were received on the facility closing August 25. For the	
past two years the facility has closed when schools go back in session. This year	
Summit Waves was scheduled to close August 25 <sup>th</sup> with school scheduled to start	
August 26 <sup>th</sup> . However, there were some patrons who expected the close date to	
be pushed back with Lee's Summit R7 delaying their start until after Labor Day.	
The decision to keep the original close date was due to attendance dropping towards the end of the summer and some private schools keeping their start date	
the same.	
Ms. Carson stated this was an abnormal summer with added cleaning protocols	
throughout the facility. 6 feet social distancing lines were painted for concessions,	
welcome desk and diving boards. Hand sanitizer was added throughout the	
facility in addition to more soap dispensers in the locker rooms. Throughout the	
day, Deck Attendants and Concession Attendants sanitized the high touch areas	
such as railings, lounge chairs, tables, life jackets, inner tubes and restrooms.	
Lounge chairs were tagged with red and green cards. The red cards allowed staff	
to know the chair was being utilized and needed to be cleaned once the patron	
left. Large backpack sprayers were used to sanitize large areas at the end of the	
evening in preparation for the next day.	
The minimum wage analysis also proposed increases to season passes and facility	
rentals however, these increases will take place next year along with dive in	
movies. The single visits were increased $\$1$ to follow the minimum wage analysis.	
Mr. Ellis asked if we are still dealing with Covid next season whether we are	
putting together a plan that will be different besides opening on time which	
would allow us to raise the price more. Mr. Blazek stated a return to normalcy will	
probably not be there but somewhere in between normal and the restrictions we	
saw in 2020 and with a full season. Mr. Ellis stated it would be good to have a	
phased approach to opening depending on the restrictions that are in place. Mr.	
Ellis also asked if splashpads were open after Summit Waves closed. Mr. Snook	
stated splashpads are open until Labor Day weekend.	
Vice President Bivins asked if things do return to normal when the earliest date is	
a person could purchase a season pass. Mr. Blazek stated March 1 <sup>st</sup> is the first	
available day to purchase passes and there is a \$10 price reduction if they are	
purchased before May 1 <sup>st</sup> .	
Ms. Kelley wanted to know if the red and groop cards worked. Mr. Plazek stated	
Ms. Kelley wanted to know if the red and green cards worked. Mr. Blazek stated we had a high degree of compliance. Ms. Kelley stated she was proud Summit	
Waves opened because most pools in the area didn't.	
waves opened because most pools in the area didn t.	
Mr. Fields asked if there was any savings this year that we could carry forward	
into the future once things open back up or whether all the savings were tied to	
the reduction of density. Mr. Blazek stated the original plan was to staff the wave	
, Grin print and ward	



Gamber Community Center 2020 End of Activity Presentation	<ul> <li>pool with five or six guards at all times. Judging by the use, even with less people in the facility, there were times we were able to cut down to three. Mr. Blazek stated from a savings standpoint, no, but we could possibly scale back to four or five guards at the wave pool for a normal use day.</li> <li>President Aulenbach stated reading through the comments there were comments that said why you didn't do this or that but then there were the ones that said this was the highlight of my family's summer. She believed these outweigh the others by far.</li> <li>Ms. Crews explained the End of Activity report was from July 2019-June 2020. The facility was closed from March 16-June 8, a total of 84 days due to Covid. The facility had over 51,000 participant visit for programs, memberships and rentals, which was down 20,000 from the previous year. Revenues were down, which was directly related to not being able to hold activities. The two hardest hit areas were rentals and memberships. Rentals are not recovering as quickly as hoped. In addition, the facility didn't receive the sales tax subsidy in April or May due to the closure.</li> <li>Surveys were sent out after the facility reopened in June which resulted in most of the comments being Covid related under current operation. Some of the comments were in regards to hours of operation. The facility is open Monday – Thursday, 6am-7pm; Friday, 6am-5pm; Saturday, 7am-2pm. The facility used to close Monday-Thursday at 9pm and normal hours on Sundays were 12pm-6pm. The hours of operation changes were already going to be implemented with minimum wage analysis starting in July. The majority of feedback was in regards to the closure midday for Covid cleaning protocols and the Group Fitness schedule. Prior to closing, 25 classes were offered per week and after opening back up it was established that eight would be a good starting point. After six weeks, attendance was evaluated and the morning Silver Sneakers class was</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>maxing out consistently so two classes were added on Thursday and Friday.</li> <li>Classes are limited to 11 people due to spacing. Other comments were related to how friendly staff was at the facility.</li> <li>Mistletoe Madness was held with 20 vendors and 400 shoppers, which is half of the previous year. Rentals are still being held, however, with different social distancing protocols. Previous years the facility hosted a Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving and Holiday lunch. Patrons would come in, sit and socialize while staff serves them lunch. This year the format was changed into drive thru events. The Holiday lunch is next week with the Kansas City Symphony playing a drive in concert and there are 82 people signed up with registrations open until Monday.</li> <li>Mr. Ellis asked if we can continue the lower levels of labor, supplies and utilities because there was a big savings. Mr. Snook stated our two big revenue streams are memberships and rentals. As long as we are in a Covid situation, rentals will be significantly reduced. The clientele at Gamber Community Center is older and it seems a majority of the older population has made a conscience decision, at all of our facilities, to discontinue their memberships until they feel more comfortable with everything. Currently staff does not intend to make any significant changes. Mr. Ellis complimented staff on doing a good job serving an important clientele to this community.</li> <li>President Aulenbach thanked Ms. Crews for her presentation and expressed her</li> </ul>	
AGENDA ITEMS:	appreciation for everything she does for the department.	
Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2020 Regular Park Board Meeting	Supporting documentation (see pages 1-9). No questions or discussion.	Vice President Bivins made a motion to approve the minutes of October 27, 2020; seconded by Mr. Fields. Motion carried unanimously.
Treasurer's Report – October 2020	Supporting documentation (see pages 10-19). Ms. Culbertson read the October 2020 Financial Report in the absence of Treasurer Huser.	Vice President Bivins made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for October 2020;



	<ul><li>Mr. Crawford asked why we read the expenses instead of the fund balance. Ms. Culbertson stated it is because the Park Board is approving the expenditure of the funds.</li><li>Mr. Snook advised the Park Board that there has been a discrepancy that was found in our financials reflecting refunds equaling about \$40,000 in revenue. In January there might be a drop in the Financials. The bulk of the funds are in Lovell and Longview.</li></ul>	seconded by Ms. Kelley. Motion carried unanimously.
Sales Tax Report – November 2020 BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS	Supporting documentation (see pages 20-21). Mr. Snook advised the Board that the City has received the first month of the use tax and LSPR's portion is \$21,000 for October. Projecting this out for 12 months is not safe to do at this time because there is not enough data, but projecting based on this information alone would put annual numbers at about \$250,000. Earlier this year staff projected approximately in \$210,000 benefit to the Parks Department from the use tax. Staff will determine how to report these number in the January report. Mr. Ellis asked if the sales tax is ahead of pace. Ms. Culbertson stated we are ahead about \$153,000 year to date on this sales tax that started April 2018. Mr. Ellis asked if we measure the amounts on a monthly basis to see if it is continuing to stay on pace or ahead. Ms. Culbertson stated these numbers are receipts we received not necessary what we should have received. The cutoff at the State and what is remitted to the City is what the report includes. Without access to detail it is hard to compare and know what we are measuring to prior periods. The City's Finance Department might have this and since LSPR would like to breakout the use tax and track it, perhaps this is something they can provide. Ms. Culbertson noted she would work with Finance to get additional information.	No Board Action.
Amendment to FY2021 Pay and Classification Plan	Supporting documentation (see pages 22-23). Mr. Snook stated in 2021 we will be having a very significant retirement in our Administration division, as Ms. Culbertson, the person responsible for our budget oversight will be retiring. Staff is currently working to reorganize different areas of the department and Administration is one of those areas. In evaluating the needs of the department, it became evident LSPR needs to bring a person on who will be our expert and can answer the Board's questions with respect to the budget. We have had similar positions in the past but when we created Ms. McCormick Heanue's old position we chose to eliminate the position. Now we are back to where we were a few years ago and staff believes it is appropriate to request the addition of a Management Analyst position. The position will also have some supervisory responsibilities in Administration, and will fulfill a critical need with respect to financials. The cost savings from the position that was vacated earlier this year will be used to help fund this position, which is at a lower cost annually than the previous Superintendent position. This position if approved. Mr. Snook stated it is Carole Culbertson and Dana Thurber. Ms. Culbertson stated the position is an oversight role and the financial piece that she handles other than the other duties of a Superintendent. This position allows the person to be involved from projections through the entire budget process in May. Mr. Crawford asked whether some of this falls under Dana Thurber. Mr. Snook stated that Ms. Thurber has some responsibilities she picked up when we eliminated the previous position a couple of years ago. Mr. Crawford asked for clarification on what position Manager position to the proposed Management Analyst position in the Department two or three years ago. When that person left and the opportunity for Ms. McCormick Heanue to come on board came about, LSPR did not fill that position. Mr. Crawford asked why the position the previous about the previous position a	Mr. Ellis moved to approve the Amendment to the Full Time Pay Plan for FY21 to incorporate the Management Analyst position and authorize the Administrator to immediately begin the hiring process for the position; seconded by Vice President Bivins. Motion carried 6 to 1 (Mr. Crawford voting "Nay.")



	Culbertson stated that several years ago Andy Holmes held the Administration Manager role and he did have responsibility of the operating budget while she took care of the capital budgets. Mathew Garrett, who was with us previously and worked on the minimum wage analysis also worked on the operating budget. Both of them prepared the Park Board Financial statements for her review. Ms. Thurber is currently preparing financial statements, and also works with staff on projections for operating budgets and the minimum wage analysis. Ms. Culbertson explained Ms. Thurber will still continue to be an important part of digging through the detail of information but it's the oversight of the process this position would be responsible for, not the preparer or the initial review. Mr. Crawford asked if there's not the ability to expand Ms. Thurber's role to assume the duties that would be incorporated in this new position. Mr. Snook advised that Ms. Thurber's current responsibilities and assignments would not allow for additional responsibilities to be added. Mr. Snook advised the plan for Ms. Culbertson's retirement next year was originally to have Ms. McCormick Heanue take over all of Administration, and under that plan was still a need to hire some people in lower levels to provide support to Ms. McCormick Heanue. Staff is still going forward with that plan with another Superintendent once Ms. Culbertson retires, however it is critical to have this position in place so the staff person has the opportunity to go through the entire budget process while Ms. Culbertson is here. The budget is an extensive process with projections, budget development, budget approval and then monitoring. Mr. Crawford asked for confirmation the future. Mr. Snook advised there is no intention of filling that position in the future. Mr. Snook advised there was any intention of filling that position in something that we should be entertaining in light of unknown forecasts for the future budget? Mr. Snook stated from a Finance standpoint Fund 200 is	
	Mr. Ellis asked whether this position will take over a lot of the work Ms. Culbertson is doing or whether it is a different level that Ms. Culbertson's positon will be replaced at a different time. Mr. Snook stated the financial portion of Ms. Culbertson's job is what this position will be picking up. Mr. Ellis asked for confirmation there would be a temporary double up for training purposes as far as the expense. Mr. Snook stated this was correct. Mr. Ellis asked how long of a timeframe will the duplication would be, and Mr. Snook stated Ms. Culbertson plans to retire sometime in 2021.	
Agreement with Great Beginnings Childhood Center	Supporting documentation (see pages 24-28). Mr. Dean explained this is an agreement which is brought forward to the Board every year as a procedural renewal. The Agreement allows Lovell Community Center to be an emergency sheltering site for Lee's Summit R7's Great Beginnings Early Childhood Center and outlines the use of the facility and points of contacts for both Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation and Lee's Summit R7 School District.	Vice President Bivins made a motion to approve the emergency sheltering site MOU between Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Board and the Lee's Summit R-7 School District.; Seconded by Mr. Ellis. Motion
	Mr. Crawford asked if Mr. Dean is the staff person who typically negotiates contracts with the School Board. Mr. Snook stated the agreements are initially established at the higher level with himself and School District's Superintendent. Once they have been established it is coordinated between LSPR's facility manager and LSR7's facility manager. Mr. Snook explained he doesn't typically have a conversation with the Superintendent of LSR7 for this agreement because it has been in place for a long time. Mr. Crawford asked if these Memoranda of Understandings are segmented or all done at once. Mr. Snook advised it is	carried unanimously.



OLD BUSINESS	segmented, but noted if the parties could get to a point where it was a more universal agreement with all the different things the two entities have together it would be ideal. Mr. Snook has had a few conversations with the new Superintendent and looks forward to working with him in the future but until the end of the pandemic there is not likely going to be much meaningful dialogue related to these items.	
Projects and Services Review	Supporting documentation, (See pages 29-36). No discussion or questions.	No Board Action.
Capital Projects Plan	<ul> <li>Lowenstein Park Improvements: Supporting documentation (see pages 37-38).</li> <li>Mr. Casey stated there was a lot of people at the park yesterday once the announcement was made the playground was open. LSPR crews are doing work on the new shelters and will be removing the old shelters and playground within the next week. Once the old playground equipment is removed, staff will perform restoration in the area and other areas of the park with completion targeted by the end of the year.</li> <li>Staff obtained bids on the fence replacement at the area of Chipman and Pryor Road and are currently being reviewed. There is site work being done on the pond and restoration of the water feature with work near completion. Staff is very excited the fitness equipment, trail and playground are open and good weather days like we've been experiencing really draws people to the park.</li> <li>Vice President Bivins stated going south on Pryor the signage in the drainage area catches your eye when lit. During the day the area is also a big improvement and it looks like something that fits within a park. Mr. Snook encouraged anyone who hasn't seen it yet to take an opportunity in the near future. He also noted the developer has added some landscaping, as well as waterfalls on either side of the sign and brick on the façade, noting it looks really impressive and once the water is going it is going to be spectacular.</li> <li>Mr. Ellis thanked Mr. Snook and Mr. Casey for talking through the details on the water in the pond, noting they did put stone around the drainage and decorated it nicely. When the water level gets to where it is supposed to be it will look like a first class operation. Mr. Casey stated the developer gave us a sneak peek to get us comfortable with the design and he appreciated the opportunity to review the plan of the proposed water feature but they had to submit the plan to the city. The two pad sits by the pond are expected to be developed in January or February as restaurants. M</li></ul>	No Board Action.
Fundraising Update	<ul> <li>participating.</li> <li>Supporting documentation (see pages 40-42). Mr. Dean stated there is nothing new on the collection process. There are currently five outstanding payments, one for November and four for December. Mr. Dean shared with the Board an extensive review of our contracts over the last several years was conducted by our Sponsorship Coordinator who found several sponsors that were not renewing. He advised LSPR staff the price point for sponsorships is a little high and the newness of the package had worn off. A lot of LSPR's sponsors over the</li> </ul>	No Board Action.



	years are small local companies, not big ones that can afford \$15,000 per year. He proposed a new price point and staff agreed to it this week. The sponsorship price will be rolled back from \$15,000 per year to \$12,800 per year, with the intent of being under the \$13,000 per year price point. The Sponsorship Coordinator feels he will have a better opportunity to not only bring on new sponsors but retain some of the current sponsors from the last several years. The pricing will also be
	extended to the current sponsors, so any payments moving forward will be reduced down to \$12,800 per year. Mr. Dean also reported A1 Mortgage in Lee's Summit was recently signed as a new sponsor.
NEW BUSINESS	
End of Activity Report	

Supporting documentation (see pages 43-122). Mr. Snook commented there were several facility reports in the packet and he was pleased with the survey results. The majority of the surveys were received after Covid hit. The high scores we received speaks volumes about the staff that work the facilities and the lengths they have gone to keep people active and safe as possible.

### PATRON COMMENT REVIEW

Supporting documentation (see pages 123-144). Mr. Ellis asked if the response on the lights at Lowenstein was a standard comment. Mr. Snook agreed it is our standard comment, however, advised we have not received any new comments on the lighting at Lowenstein. Mr. Ellis agreed it is good to have a standard comment and this is the right decision for the Parks Department right now.

Ms. Kelley commented that email comments need to have the original comment at the top and put them in order. Mr. Snook advised staff would adjust the reporting method in future packets.

# MONTHLY CALENDARS

Supporting documentation (see pages 145-147). President Aulenbach reminded the Board the next Park Board meeting is January 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Shepard commented unemployment is huge right now and a lot of people are strapped for cash and questioned whether the Department could think about the impact of raising our rates next year. She understands why it is being done but stressed the need to keep in mind all the people that are in need of money and do not have the extra cash.

Mr. Ellis noted as we wrap up this calendar year we need to be thankful for the place we live and resources in the community and suggested having some kind of program or fund for people having a challenging time.

Mr. Crawford stated youth sports are important for our kids and it is beneficial the basketball program is starting next month. He noted how important youth sports are for kid's physical and mental health and thanked Parks staff on keeping youth sports running.

Mr. Fields commented it has been quite a year to join a Board and reflected what a great job staff has done in the midst of this Covid crisis this year. Each person who has come to present to the Board has had to preface their reports on the fact that because of Covid the facilities had to change operations which led to expenses being down but not necessary enough to accommodate the shortfall on revenue. Parks during Covid is important because they provide our residents an outlet. He is encouraged by the level of energy, engagement, excitement and dedication the Parks staff has continued to display during this past year.

Ms. Kelley stated she has been attending the Legacy for Parks Foundation meetings and she believes they have a very good core group who is very dedicated and open minded. One of the first things they came up with was Amazon Smiles. She encouraged everyone to do their online shopping on Amazon Smile for the benefit of the Legacy for Parks Foundation Lee's Summit. When you do, Amazon will donate to our Foundation with no cost to the buyer.

Vice President Bivins referred to Mr. Ellis' question about a scholarship fund and noted in the past, the Board has talked about having a program that supplements the fees for patrons and we should advertise this is available. Vice President Bivins also suggested that anytime a Park Board member can use one of LSPR's sponsor's services they should or at least thank them for supporting the department.

Councilmember Shields stated she was really impressed with the way the department has adapted to the situation we are in, especially with the drive thru meals. It is important to keep those traditions going in a safe way and give people a chance to have some activities.

President Aulenbach thanked everyone who participated in the retreat on November 6<sup>th</sup>. We have never done one like that before and she thought it went very well and was successful. President Aulenbach also thanked Mr. Snook for getting the priorities out to the Board and for their one on one meeting together. When they were meeting at their one on one, she asked what the department was going to do with the Lee's Summit Illustrated and Mr. Snook explained how it was going to look. President Aulenbach said it looked really good and people were excited to get it. She thanked all the Board members and wished them a Merry Christmas and hoped that 2021 is good and healthy year for all.



### OTHER ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

Mr. Snook explained Jackson County recently made a change to require a mask for all patrons during workouts. Staff has received three or four complaints filed with the County Health Department for violations. The County came in twice and both times they found no violations. Staff called all patrons that had medical restrictions for a mask on Friday to discuss the new requirement. He also advised the Board a patron came in on Saturday not wearing a mask and staff advised he needed to put one on. The patron went upstairs and started working out and still refused to wear a mask and refused to leave. The Police were called, addressed him and told him he was asked to leave. We were enforcing the mask mandate and Police was addressing trespassing for the patron's failure to leave once asked. The patron continued to refuse to leave, for the Police until they got out their handcuffs, at which time the patron ended up leaving on his own, but he was cited for trespassing. Staff will continue to enforce the guidelines as they are given to us by the County. Our full intention is make sure our staff and patrons are protected so they can come in and enjoy their facility to the level they like to enjoy it. Staff has a process in place with a very limited tolerance for no masks.

Mr. Snook noted the Lee's Summit Journal did a very nice article on the Thrive 900 unit at Lowenstein Park.

Mr. Snook also expressed his pride of Mr. Dean for an article that was published in The World Water Park Association magazine which is an international organization for water parks. Mr. Dean was asked to put an article together on our wave pool and the addition to Summit Waves. Mr. Snook reiterated he couldn't be more proud of Mr. Dean and staff in our organization.

Mr. Crawford asked if we have disposable masks at the facilities if patrons need them. Mr. Snook advised we do.

# **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**