



1685 West Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169
heparks.org t (847) 885-7500 f (847) 885-7523



AGENDA
RECREATION & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021
7:30 P.M.
***Remotely via ZOOM**

1. ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES
 - April 20, 2021
4. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE
5. OLD BUSINESS
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Programs for All / M21-049
 - B. Recreation Board Report / M21-048
 - C. Facilities Board Report / M21-052
7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS
8. ADJOURNMENT

**For access to remote meetings held via ZOOM, please email mlogan@heparks.org. You will be provided the link to join the ZOOM and you will be able to participate during the "Comments from the Audience" portion of the meeting. For ease, you may also email your comment prior to the start of the meeting time and your comment will be read aloud on your behalf during the meeting.*



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**MINUTES
RECREATION & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
April 20, 2021**

1. Roll Call:

A regular meeting of the Hoffman Estates Park District Recreation & Facilities Committee was held on April 20, 2021 at 7:23 p.m. remotely via ZOOM.

Present: Chairman K. Evans, Commissioner Chhatwani, Comm Reps Beranek, Dressler, Henderson, MacGregor

Absent: Comm Rep Macdonald

Also Present: Executive Director Talsma, Director of Recreation Kapusinski, Director of Parks, Planning & Maintenance Hugen, Director of Golf & Facilities Bechtold, Director of Finance & Administration Hopkins

Audience: President Kaplan, Commissioners R. Evans, Friedman, Kinnane, McGinn

2. Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Chhatwani made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Beranek to approve the agenda as presented.

On a Roll Call: Carried 6-0-1
Ayes: 6 Chhatwani, Beranek, Dressler, Henderson, MacGregor, K. Evans
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Macdonald

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Commissioner Chhatwani made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Beranek to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting as presented.

On a Roll Call: Carried 6-0-1
Ayes: 6 Chhatwani, Beranek, Dressler, Henderson, MacGregor, K. Evans
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Macdonald

4. Comments from the Audience:

None

5. Old Business:

None

6. New Business:

A. Rec Board Report & Q1 Goals / M21-037:

Director Kapusinski highlighted the following:

- Liz Blake began on April 7 as the new Aquatic Manager.
- District Easter events were held this month: Bunny Basket, Bunny Drive By and Doggie Egg Hunt.
- The district was awarded another \$78,000 through the state’s Child Care Grant for the Little Stars Childcare program.
- Early Learning & Care has been rebranded to the Little Stars Child Care.
- STAR registration for 21/22 school year is open and enrollment is higher than this current year.
- Winter youth basketball and soccer leagues ended this past month.
- E-Sports Zone opened with a soft opening on April 1.
- Spring hockey league started early April.
- Public Skate resumes with pre-registration for each event.
- Marketing is focused on Seascape, E-Sports, camps and summer hiring promotions.

Commissioner McGinn asked if the Community Gardens will be open.

Commissioner K.Evans asked what portion of the \$78,000 will be covered by wages. Executive Director Talsma responded that part time wages will all be covered with the grant funds.

Comm Rep MacGregor made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chhatwani to send the Rec Board Report & Q1 Goals to the Board as presented.

On a Roll Call: Carried 6-0-1

Ayes: 6 Chhatwani, Beranek, Dressler, Henderson, MacGregor, K. Evans

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Macdonald

D. Facilities Board Report / M21-041:

Director Bechtold highlighted the following:

- March Madness event was sold out with 144 players.
- Par 3 event was sold out with 36 players.

- 960 rounds were sold in March.
- Fish Fry was held with new curbside/to go options this year.
- Breakfast with the Bunny was sold out with 132 participants.
- Weddings will be held with a maximum guest count of 170 guests: 50 unvaccinated guests and 120 vaccinated guests.
- 10th Tee will be open soon.
- The Club had its first month in many months with over 30 new members.
- The Club is receiving great feedback from people returning.
- Daily visits at The Club are increasing.
- The Club’s fitness challenge, “Pot o Gold” was well received with many members participating.

Commission McGinn asked if the snow mold is easy to clean up. Director Bechtold said it is in certain spots and is being recovered.

Commissioner K.Evans asked if the showers and steam rooms are closed at The Club. Director Bechtold answered that every-other-shower is open, but the steam rooms are closed.

Commissioner Chhatwani made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep MacGregor to send the Facilities Board Report & Q1 Goals to the Board as presented.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| On a Roll Call: | Carried 6-0-1 |
| Ayes: | 6 Chhatwani, Beranek, Dressler, Henderson, MacGregor, K. Evans |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Absent: | 1 Macdonald |

7. Committee Member Comments:

Comm Rep Henderson congratulated all the election winners and to Executive Assistant Logan.

Comm Rep Beranek is eagerly waiting for the South Ridge splash pad to open.

Comm Rep Macgregor is enjoying the clearing at Walnut Pond and the Black Bear Park Disc Course is in great shape.

Comm Rep Dressler has visited three parks with her granddaughter. She loved South Ridge Park.

Commissioner Chhatwani congratulated Executive Assistant Logan. The Doggie Egg Hunt is a great idea.

Chairman K.Evans is excited for Commissioner Chhatwani and McGinn’s new term and welcomed Comm Rep Dressler to the board. Many north-side residents speak so highly

about South Ridge Park; it is an A++ park, and is excited for the Birch Park project. He is sorry to hear about the Bridges project pricing.

Other Comments:

Commission Friedman gave a shout to Athletic Manager Kyle Thomas for the basketball program and the great numbers.

8. Adjournment:

Commissioner Chhatwani made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep MacGregor to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

On a Roll Call: Carried 5-0-2

Ayes: 5 Chhatwani, Beranek, Henderson, MacGregor, K. Evans

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Dressler, Macdonald

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Talsma
Secretary

Alisa Kapusinski
Director of Recreation

MEMORANDUM M21-049

TO: Recreation & Facilities Committee
FROM: Craig Talsma, Executive Director
Alisa Kapusinski, Director of Recreation
RE: Programs for All initiative
DATE: May 18, 2021

Background:

For over 15 years, our Friends of HEParks Foundation provides financially challenged families the opportunity to apply and receive a scholarship to attend our programs for free. An application must be completed with the required financial documentation showing financial hardship. Once approved by the HEParks business department, the families are provided funding through the foundation to enroll in their program of choice.

Friends of HEParks Foundation has provided over \$250,000 in free programs, over the last 15 years, to disadvantaged families of our community. We have been lucky that we have not had to turn away many families that have applied, however, there are limitations on those programs and many of our more expensive programs have not been eligible for the limited scholarships given on an annual basis.

Staff brainstormed on ways to allow more families and more children, which may otherwise not be able to afford one of our programs, to be able to participate at no cost and learn the wonderful aspects that our recreation services provide to the community.

A large part of this goal started with the simple summer concept of going to our pool. Many years ago, we realized a simple fact: that many families could not afford to go to our public water park and pay for the family pass. We wanted to give our community access to splash pads to allow anyone to enjoy water activities who could not afford going to the pool. Our District invested in an area closest to an apartment complex and completely updated a park with an all-new splash pad. Though this opened only the season prior to the pandemic, the attendance was incredible. We knew we had to ensure we had comparable features in each major geographical area of our District.

This endeavor was supported by our capital plan, and we quickly created all new splash pads in two more areas of our District. Though this will now be the first year that they will be open, our District is posed to make sure that the residents of our community, no matter their financial ability, will all be able to enjoy the cooling splash of water on a hot summers day.

Now that everyone can cool off, we still needed to make sure everyone could swim..., play baseball, soccer, or hockey, or earn to dance, etc. Despite our foundation's help, we knew there were countless families that may not be able to have their children participate in our actual programs. As we pursued our dream of inclusion for all.

Programs are established with an enrollment limitation based on minimum/maximum. The minimum is the number of participants needed to run a program without incurring a loss to at least cover the direct costs of instructors and supplies. The maximum is usually that number that can still participate based on room size or instructor/ participant ratio. Very commonly, we see the minimum/maximum commonly at 6/12. We need six participants to break even and 12 can be enrolled with no real additional cost.

The difference between the maximum and minimum is the “no additional cost level”, or what we call the NCL. That means at a min/max of 6/12 we can actually allow six more individuals to enroll, and there is at no additional cost to have them in the program. That program has an NCL of six.

Focusing on our programs, we did a quick review and found that we do indeed have many programs with open spaces within the NCL: a swim instructor teaching four children, when they actually could teach up to six; eight kids on a basketball team when we could have ten; the list is endless. It is not that our programs are unpopular or overly costly, but we do realize that we have families that simply may not be able to afford even inexpensive programs. After all, it is recreation, and that is one of the items cut from many family budgets when times are tough.

The years of the pandemic created many hardships for many people. Financial hardships for families were common, and we did not want to see those recreational activities cut from the family budget. As we realized that many families could no longer afford some of our recreation programs, we realized that we already had another way to allow free programs to these families (beyond our foundation scholarships).

Those open registration spots that fell into the NCL were just waiting to be filled. How could we get the people who could not afford our programs into them? We first needed to know who these families were without being intrusive on their personal situations. We wanted to use the same mechanics as our foundation scholarship program, but wanted to make it easier for the families to be able to realize what we were truly had available. We wanted a system where we could tell them all the programs they could take free and based on their interests and our NCL we could then enroll them.

Implications:

We did not want to get into an overwhelming application process for these families to apply for this new initiative. Knowing that our local school districts already had a process for their free lunch program, we reached out to our local school districts, and they were extremely excited at the concept of our new program. We quickly collaborated with them to process the application and approval. The school district social workers and principals will accept the Programs for All applications and approve the families that are most in need. We put together a simple application form and an FAQ sheet and are now ready to start.

On the application, beyond family information, we simply ask them to rank a selection of free programs they would be interested in. As we get close to each program’s start date, we determine our NCL slots available, and then we directly contact the family to finalize interest.

The individual is registered at no cost. If the program has any of those additional direct costs (i.e. uniform), we then also can access our foundation scholarship fund to cover that.

Our District is extremely excited to roll out this program and enhance our inclusive journey of making sure all of our residents can participate in all programs. Our District, with the cooperation of our School Districts, have worked to ensure inclusion. From splash pads to swim lessons to sport leagues, our goal is to ensure that all families, no matter what their financial means, have the ability to participate in any of our programs. I am sure that we have many children that have dreamed of learning to play hockey, but due to their financial ability never saw it as a possibility. With our new Programs for All initiative, their dream of playing and our goal of district-wide program social equity can be accomplished.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff is recommending that the Recreation & Facilities Committee recommend to the full Board the implementation of the Programs for All initiative.

Programs for All

Frequently asked questions

What is Programs For All?

This program developed by Hoffman Estates Park District (HEParks) focuses on making recreation programs accessible to all children within the District. HEParks offers unfilled program spots within District run programs to qualifying students at no fee. Participants may enroll in one free program per season.

How do I enroll in Programs For All?

Qualifying families within School District 15 and 54 will receive an enrollment packet from their school. This packet contains an information page and a one-page application. Within the application, each student can select their program preference(s). Return the application form to the student's school.

Who qualifies for Programs For All?

Eligibility determined by School District 15 and 54. Participants must live within the HEParks district border, attend a school within Districts 15 or 54 and qualify for the free and reduced lunch program.

What ages can participate in Programs For All?

The program serves children from Preschool-8th grades.

How is this different from the Friends of HEParks Foundation Scholarship?

With foundation scholarships, families must apply and choose a specific program for enrollment. Scholarship participants register for particular programs and are guaranteed a spot in the program. Programs for All participants select their program preference, but do not enroll for programs directly. Placement in a program is dependent on the number of available spots in a program after registration closes. Participants are not guaranteed admittance in a program with Programs For All. Students may qualify for both the HEParks Foundation Scholarship and Programs For All.

Are the same programs offered each season?

The programs offered under Programs For All differ each season based on program offerings.

How do I find out if my child is accepted into Programs For All?

Once a program has met enrollment availability, a HEParks representative will call and inform the primary contact of program placement. At this time, the contact either accepts or declines program placement. The District will leave a message if the phone is not answered. HEParks can not guarantee a second program placement within the same season if the first placement is declined.

Why are you notifying families by phone and not by email?

The turnaround time for participating in The Programs For All program is short. Families may be notified of program availability only a few days before the beginning of the session. Phone conversations allow HEParks to set the students up within the programs without delay.

How does the registration process work for Programs For All?

Following the closing of program registration, recreation managers will determine the programs with qualifying openings for the program. Managers will attempt to place students into their first program choices when possible. Staff will then reach out directly, via phone, to Programs For All participants for inclusion into the program.

What programs are included in Programs For All?

Currently, 30 programs qualify for Programs For All during the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer seasons. These programs include baseball, basketball, soccer, dance, E-Sports/gaming, intro to hockey, fishing, swim lessons and figure skating.

Is transportation included to and from games and practices?

No. Transportation is not provided to and from programs and practices. Participants must provide transportation.

In how many programs can students enroll per season?

Programs For All participants can enroll in up to one program per season. Students are chosen based on program availability and program choice. If there are more students than available class spots, HEParks will use a lottery system for program choice. Students will be placed in programs based on their selected choices, but HEParks reserves the right to place students within other programs based on availability.

Are siblings guaranteed placement within the same program and location?

HEParks is unable to guarantee that siblings are placed within the same program. It is not guaranteed that every child within a family will be offered a program spot due to limited availability. Managers will try to accommodate families, but it may not be possible.

Are all of the programs entry-level?

No. Students may qualify for higher-level programs if they meet program prerequisites. Figure skating, dance programs and swim lessons are programs with upper-level placement options. There is a special section of the registration form where you should indicate the program skill level.

I have questions. Who do I contact?

If you have questions about Programs for All please contact Alisa Kapusinski at AKapusinski@heparks.org.

Programs for All - Registration Form

2021-2022 School Year - Return form to student's school



1685 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, IL, 60169
847-885-7500, HEParks.org

Household information

Household # (Internal use)

| | | | |
|--|---------|--|---|
| Parent/Guardian last name (Family): | | Parent/Guardian first name: | |
| Address: | | City/Zip Code | |
| Relationship to student: | | Prior participation in HEParks programs? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Email address: | | | |
| Participants will be contacted via phone for this program. | Phone # | Alternate phone # | |

Student Information:

Complete a form for each child enrolled in Programs For All.

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|
| Student's last name: | Student's first name: | Birthday: |
| School: | Grade: | Gender: |
| Does the student require accommodations or modifications for program participation?* | <input type="text"/> | |

Sibling Information:

Indicate any siblings **enrolled** in Programs For All. This is not a registration form, but a tool to help place qualifying siblings together.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sibling name (last name/first name) | Sibling name (last name/first name) |
| Sibling name (last name/first name) | Sibling name (last name/first name) |

Program Choices

How to choose programs:

- Indicate up to three (3) classes per season for the student.
- Place the numbers 1, 2, and 3 by priority program choices.
- If not interested in a program, indicate with an "X".

Fall Programs 2021

- Baseball League
- Dance
- E-Sports/Gaming
- Intro to Hockey
- Figure Skating
- Fishing
- Soccer League
- Swim Lessons

Winter Programs 2022

- Basketball League
- Dance*
- E-Sports/Gaming
- Indoor Soccer League*
- Intro to Hockey
- Figure Skating
- Swim Lessons

Spring Programs 2022

- Baseball League
- E-Sports/Gaming
- Intro to Hockey
- Figure Skating
- Fishing
- Soccer League*
- Swim Lessons

Summer Programs 2022

- Baseball League
- Basketball League
- Dance
- Intro to Hockey
- Figure Skating
- Fishing
- Soccer League
- Swim Lessons

Note: Programs indicated with a * have an associated additional uniform/costume fee.

Intro to Hockey participants must complete the Figure Skating Learn to Skate prior to joining the hockey program.

Please indicate any prior experience in the following programs:

Dance:

Swimming:

Figure Skating:

Hockey:

Note:

Staff will attempt to place students within priority choices. It is possible a student will be placed into a non- priority program.

Application continues on reverse side -->

Programs for All Registration Waiver Required for Program Participation

WARNING OF RISK

Recreational activities/programs are intended to challenge and engage the physical, mental and emotional resources of each participant. Despite careful and proper preparation, instruction, medical advice, conditioning and equipment, there is still a risk of serious injury when participating in any recreational activity/program. Understandably, not all hazards and dangers can be foreseen. Participants must understand that certain risks, dangers and injuries due to acts of God, inclement weather, slipping, falling, equipment failures, failure in supervision, premises defects and all other circumstances inherent to recreational activities /programs exist. In this regard, it must be recognized that it is impossible for the HEParks to guarantee absolute safety. Ice-skating/Hockey is intended to challenge and engage the physical, mental and emotional resources of the participant. Despite careful and proper preparation, instruction, medical advice, conditioning and equipment, there is still a risk of serious injury, including but not limited to head injury, neck or back injury, wrist and ankle fractures, and other orthopedic injuries to limbs and joints. All hazards and dangers cannot be foreseen. The very nature of ice- skating/Hockey is high risk, including but not limited to slip and falls, colliding with other players of varying degrees of skill (including being struck from behind), tripping on irregular ice surfaces, cuts from skate blades, inadequate or defective equipment, ill-fitting skates, failure in supervision or instruction, horseplay, carelessness, poor technique, poor conditioning, rule violations, striking a stationary object, premises defects outside the rink, and all other risks inherent to the sport of ice-skating. In this regard, it must be recognized that it is impossible for the Hoffman Estates Park District to guarantee absolute safety.

COMMUNICATION & MARKETING RELEASE

I, or my child, as a participant in a Hoffman Estates Park District program or event when using one of its public parks or facilities, may be photographed or videotaped by the Hoffman Estates Park District (HEParks) or its assigns and transferees. I grant permission to HE Parks to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example, publicity, illustration, advertising, program guide, brochures, newsletter, email, digital media boards, website, social media, news releases or other promotional materials.

By providing my email address to this form, I give permission to the HEParks to send email to that address regarding events and programs. I understand that if I decide not to receive email, I can unsubscribe at any time using the link in the email. (To review the HE Parks Privacy Policy, visit heparks.org.)

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Please read this form carefully and be aware that in signing up and participating in the Hoffman Estates Park District identified programs/activities, you will be expressly assuming the risk and legal liability and waiving and releasing all claims for injuries, damages or loss which you or your minor child/ward might sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with and associated with said programs/activities (including transportation services/vehicle operation, when provided.)

I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury to participants in these programs/activities and I voluntarily agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages or loss regardless of severity, that I or my minor child/ward may sustain as a result of participation. I further agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my minor child/ward may have (or accrue to me or my child/ward) as a result of participating in these programs/activities against the Hoffman Estates Park District, including its officials, agents, volunteers and employees (hereinafter collectively referred as Hoffman Estates Park District.)

I do hereby fully release and forever discharge the Hoffman Estates Park District from any and all claims for injuries, damages, or loss that my minor child/ward or I may have or which may accrue to me or my minor child/ward and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with these programs.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Hoffman Estates Park District is committed to conducting its recreation programs and activities in a safe manner and holds the safety of participants in high regard. The Hoffman Estates Park District continually strives to reduce such risks and insists that all participants follow safety rules and instructions that are designed to protect the participants' safety. However, participants and parents/guardians of minors registering for this program/activity must recognize that there is an inherent risk of injury when choosing to participate in recreational activities. You are solely responsible for determining if you or your minor child/ward are physically fit and or skilled for the activities contemplated by this agreement. It is always advisable, especially if the participant is pregnant, disabled in any way or recently suffered an illness, injury or impairment, to consult a physician before undertaking any physical activity.

By signing this registration form, you are stating that you have read and fully understand the waiver and release of all claims, important information, warning of risk, and communications & marketing release listed below. If registering a minor participant, you further attest that you have read this information to your minor child / ward.

Signature of Participants of Parent/Guardian

Date

Registrar

MEMORANDUM NO. M21-043

TO: Recreation & Facilities Committee
FROM: Craig Talsma, Executive Director
 Alisa Kapusinski, Director of Recreation
RE: Recreation & Communications/Marketing Board Report
DATE: May 18, 2021

Recreation Division



Triphahn Center



Willow Recreation Center

Triphahn Center Fitness

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Membership</u> | <u>04/30/2020</u> | <u>01/01/2021</u> | <u>04/30/2021</u> | <u>2021 YTD Var. +/-</u> |
| Total | 757 | 509 | 510 | +1 |

Willow Rec Center Fitness & Racquetball

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Membership</u> | <u>04/30/2020</u> | <u>01/01/2021</u> | <u>04/30/2021</u> | <u>2021 YTD Var. +/-</u> |
| Fitness | 234 | 93 | 98 | +5 |
| Racquetball | 61 | 52 | 42 | -10 |
| Total | 295 | 145 | 140 | -5 |



Dog Off-Leash Areas

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Dog Park Passes</u> | <u>04/30/2020</u> | <u>01/01/2021</u> | <u>04/30/2021</u> | <u>2021 YTD Var. +/-</u> |
| Total | 562 | 586 | 680 | +94 |



General Programs

General Programs:

| Program | Participants |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Baton & Poms | 24 |
| A&A Music (piano & guitar) | 2 |

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Palatine Choir | 5 |
| Horsemanship | 2 |
| Shotokan Karate | 75 |
| Tae Kwon Do | 22 |
| Gymnastics | 166 |

Gymnastics has boomed. Spring session of gymnastics brought in 166 participants compared to 99 in Spring 2019 and 103 in Spring 2018. Additional classes have been added to accommodate waitlists.

Dance

Winter session started in February. There are 116 dancers enrolled in the winter/spring session within 21 classes. New private lessons are also being offered this spring with eight lessons taught. A mini recital is being planned at the Triphahn Center gym on May 22 for parents. The recital will also be live-streamed for other families to watch online.

Special Events:

- Park Clean-Up Events:
 - The April 10 Park Cleanup event was postponed until April 17. On April 17, the park cleanup was held at three parks. Black Bear had 9 volunteers, Charlemagne Park had 12 volunteers and Victoria Park had 13 volunteers for a total of 34 for the day!
 - Earth Day Park Cleanup event was held on on April 22. 14 volunteers were at Cannon Crossings, 18 volunteers were at South Ridge Park and 13 volunteers were at Vogelei Park for a total of 35 volunteers. Another 15 students from Conant High School met at Chino Park.
- Arbor Tree Planting event was held on April 30 with 15 volunteers.
- Bunny Drive By was held on April 3. The bunny visited 44 houses and dropped off eggs into the yards.



50+ Club

- Pub Trivia had 32 participants at the April 22 events.
- Attendance is growing in the daily drop-in programs.
- Many new events and programs have been added for summer.



Early Childhood

Little Stars Child Care has 28 children enrolled; there is no comparison to last April 2020 due to COVID closure.

New folders, postcards, brochures, t-shirts, tablecloth, and window cling for entrance are in the process of being ordered due to the new name branding.

Little Stars Grand Opening/Open House is scheduled for July 10th from 10:00a-1:00p. All teachers will be present. We will be conducting tours, having crafts and games in the gym, and small snacks in room 113. All participants must register to keep numbers within allowed group sizes. Current students will be able to attend as well.

Registration for next fall's 2021/22 part-day preschool is currently open. There are 115 children enrolled for school next year. Preschool Open House is scheduled for June 12 from 10:00-12:00 at Willow and 1:00-3:00 at TC with the goal of

For this year's preschool (2020/21), there are 61 students enrolled at TC and 38 students enrolled at WRC, for a total of 99 students.



School Age - STAR and Day Camps

STAR

D54 STAR for April

- Armstrong: 10 AM & 6 PM
- Fairview: 9 AM & 13 PM
- Lakeview: 11 AM & 30 PM
- Lincoln Prairie: 12 AM & 14 PM
- MacArthur: 10 AM & 10 PM
- Muir: 1 AM & 7 PM
-

WRC STAR for April

- Whiteley: 2 AM & 7 PM
- TJ care: 1 AM & 2 PM
- KinderSTAR: 11

Registration to date for 21/22 STAR:

D54 STAR

- Armstrong: 6 AM & 5 PM
- Fairview: 15 AM & 28 PM
- Lakeview: 6 AM & 21 PM
- Lincoln Prairie: 24 AM & 20 PM
- MacArthur: 13 AM & 16 PM
- Muir: 3 AM & 9 PM

D15 STAR

- Whiteley: 25 AM & 41 PM
- Thomas Jefferson: 7 AM & 35 PM
- KinderSTAR: 15

Staff met with the principals at TJ & Whiteley to discuss the transition of the STAR program to their schools in fall. A site tour took place.

Summer Camp

Registration is open for summer camp. Camp was originally offered at Triphahn Center & Willow Rec Center to mimic the two site offerings provided last summer. However, camps sold out immediately so staff reached out to District 54 to secure two schools for summer camp usage. Triphahn camps were moved to MacArthur School for additional space and Lincoln Prairie School was added to accommodate waitlists.



Youth Athletics

Athletics

Hoffman Basketball Academy

- A new spring in-house basketball league is being offered for boys 6th-8th grade level. There are 19 players.
- Camps: A new “scoring camp” was offered with 7 players. This camp will be offered in May as well. 37 players were enrolled in April fundamental camps and 43 enrolled for May session.

Baseball / Softball

- N60 baseball: 3 teams this season
- In-House baseball: 156 players over 5 levels
- Opening Day ceremonies: N60 night games were held under the lights. In-house opening day was May 1 with Team Parade and the Mayor reading a proclamation and throwing the first pitch.
- Rentals: Three softball tournaments were held at Cannon in April.
- Adult Softball: 8 teams

Soccer

- Outdoor soccer registration has 221 players (compared to 258 in Spring 2019).
- New HUSC Soccer Essentials trainings are being offered. There are 94 participants.

Contractual Youth Sports: 66 participants in Jr Sports classes.

Fishing: 13 participants in Learn to Fish and 29 in the free Fishing Clinic. The new summer Bass League already has 6 members.

E-Sports

- E-Sports Zone open on April 1. The facility is now open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 6-9pm. Additional events are scheduled in May with tournaments and open houses.
- E-Sports Zone has 18 members with a total of 55 visits in April.

Outdoor Education / Nature: 6 participants in Pond Dipping Class.



Ice Operations

Hockey:

- Spring session of hockey lessons began the first week of April. There are 30 skaters enrolled.
- Spring Hockey League began April 5.

| Hockey League Levels | Spring 2021 | Spring 2019 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Mites | 25 | 28 |
| Squirts | 40 | 16 |
| PeeWees | 26 | 19 |
| Bantams | 32 | 30 |
| Midgets | 34 | 18 |
| Wolverine Girls | 19 | 21 |
| TOTAL | 176 | 132 |

- Adult Drop-In Hockey continues to meet on Sunday nights. An adult hockey league will be developed once guidelines lighten.
- Plans for summer have been finalized. Hockey will offer both a full day and a half day camp. MooseJaw 3v3 league will be offered three nights/week.
- The Chicago Wolves will be finishing up their season on May 15.

Figure Skating:

- Spring session of figure skating lessons began the first week of April. There are 208 skaters enrolled this session.
- There were 111 skaters enrolled in freestyle practice ice this month.
- 345 private lessons were taught in April.

Public Skate:

- Public Skate was offered every other Sunday in April for two timeslots each day. A special “Skate with Skates” was offered on April 25. To meet a goal of expanding our partnership with the Chicago Wolves, we had their mascot, Skates, skate alongside the public skaters. All skate events held were sold out with 50 skaters each.



Aquatics

There are 176 pool passes sold to date for Seascapes summer 2021.

Hiring for the summer season took place this month. Two recertification classes for the 25 returning lifeguards were held. Another 26 new lifeguards were hired this month and began their week-long training at the end of the month. We are still on task to reach 60+ lifeguards for the season.

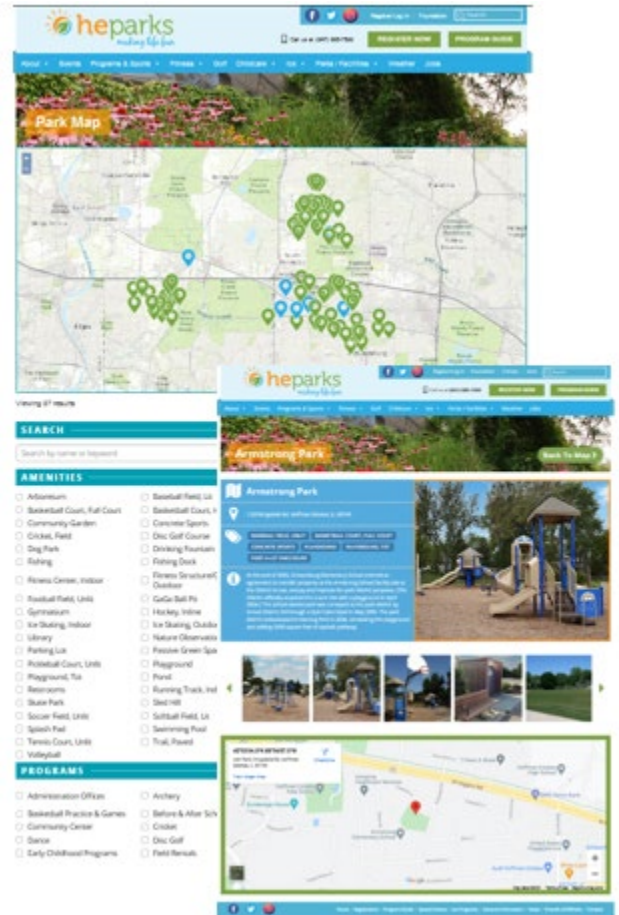
Swim lesson registration opened May 10 for the summer season. Lessons will be offered at Seascap and The Club. Group lessons will be small groups of four or less students and private lessons will also be offered.



Communications and Marketing

Special Projects:

- 1) Interactive Park Map on Website
 - Features: Search Function for amenities, programs and rental options
 - Custom Park Search: Choose what you are looking for in a park. Are you looking for a park with a restroom, tot playground, paved path? Click on options to explore.
 - Each individual park page includes highlight photos, park history, amenities, and location
 - Mobile Friendly
 - Translatable
 - Shareable



- 2) Billboard Design: Four billboards for I-90 were designed.



Design Work:

- Spring Program Guide: with new features such as slide shows, video links and new headings
- Top Tracer Range Signage

Promotions:

- E-Sports Tournaments & Open Houses
- Hockey MooseJaw League
- Seascape
- SRT Golf Outing
- Easter Events

Email campaigns: Three e-blasts highlighting: seascape and camp, program registration, Arbor Day

Social Media:

- 23 posts in April
- Top interactive posts:
 - 1) E-Sports Zone Open
 - 2) Performing Arts Job Posting
 - 3) Seascape Season Passes
 - 4) Learn to Play Cricket

of Followers:

| Follower Count of HEParks Managed Social Media Accounts by Month | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | Monthly Follower Count | | | | | |
| Account | Social Media Platform | April 2021 | March 2021 | February 2021 | January 2021 | December 2020 | November 2020 |
| Bridges of Poplar Creek | Facebook | 1081 | 1062 | 1046 | 1046 | 1034 | 1029 |
| | Instagram | 128 | 124 | 123 | 121 | 122 | 118 |
| | Twitter | 163 | 164 | 164 | 164 | 165 | 166 |
| The Club | Facebook | 1644 | 1642 | 1640 | 1643 | 1636 | 1622 |
| | Instagram | 333 | 325 | 320 | 311 | 299 | 289 |
| | Twitter | 39 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 37 | 39 |
| HEParks | Facebook | 5213 | 5180 | 5115 | 5062 | 5034 | 5013 |
| | Instagram | 866 | 855 | 839 | 808 | 776 | 729 |
| | Twitter | 1,072 | 1,071 | 1067 | 1070 | 1088 | 1092 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Ice Academy | Facebook | 98 | 97 | 96 | 92 | 90 | 88 |
| Wolf Pack | Facebook | 349 | 340 | 334 | 329 | 315 | 314 |
| | Instagram | 354 | 336 | 329 | 329 | 329 | 309 |
| Senior Center | Facebook | 120 | 118 | 116 | 116 | 115 | 114 |

HEParks Facebook and Instagram Reach

| Account | Month | Paid Reach | Facebook Reach | Instagram Reach | |
|----------------|----------|------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| HEParks | January | 65045 | 9300 | 706 | |
| | February | 54127 | 17740 | 703 | |
| | March | 77218 | 29907 | 3345 | Spring program guide launch |
| | April | 76,135 | 18,394 | 7,391 | |

Website:

Traffic to HEParks website in April: 29,165 unique page views.

Highest visited pages

- Highest visited pages in April 2021: Home, Program Guide, Camp, Seascape, Dog Park

Marquee Sales:

- Kenneth Young Center
- BMO Harris
- Kids Stem Studio
- DuPage Medical Group
- Proven Winners

MEMORANDUM NO. M21-052

TO: Recreation Committee
FROM: Craig Talsma, Executive Director
Brian Bechtold, Director of Golf & Facilities
RE: Golf & Facilities Report
DATE: May 14, 2021
Bridges of Poplar Creek & The Club Board Report

Bridges General Programs

- Jr Golf classes have begun. Our first session is our Golden Bears class. We had 24 students in this first class. This is an introductory class that will go over all the basics of the game.
- Group lessons start in spring and we are looking forward to provide instruction once again after a year off due to Covid.
- Ladies League has been posted and advertised. The league begins May 18th. We currently have 12 players signed up for this league.

Golf Rounds

| MONTHLY ROUND TOTALS | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|----------------|
| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 5 Year Average |
| 2,584 | 1,510 | 1,509 | 0 | 2,842 | 1,689 |
| YTD ROUND TOTALS | | | | | |
| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 5 Year Average |
| 3,877 | 2,805 | 1,990 | 313 | 3,802 | 2,557 |

Range Information

| MONTHLY RANGE BASKET SALES TOTALS | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|----------------|
| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 5 Year Average |
| 1,858 | 1,131 | 1,664 | 0 | 2,295 | 1,390 |
| YTD RANGE BASKET SALES TOTALS | | | | | |
| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 5 Year Average |
| 2,752 | 1,868 | 2,021 | 215 | 3,619 | 2,095 |

Food & Beverage

- The Bar & Grill is now open on a daily basis. We have introduced a new limited menu for the Spring season. We have added a few new fresh menu items which include house made chicken finger and house made mozzarella sticks. Early comments have been very positive.
- F&B item challenges are similar to all other industries. Currently we are experience a chicken wing shortage, ketchup packet, and fryer oil are just a few. Staff will continue to monitor pricing as well as we are expected to see a significant increase in beef prices. Menus are constantly being adjusted for some of the increase costs.

Wedding Count Update:

2022 = 1 reception & 2 Ceremony & Reception has booked.

2021 = 12 ceremony and reception, 3 reception (We did have one reception cancel in June as they moved to a facility that was not enforcing any Covid-19 guidelines.

2020 = All weddings have been cancelled or rescheduled to 2021.

We had 10 ceremony and reception, 4 reception only booked for 2020.

2019 = 16 ceremony and reception, 3 reception only, 1 ceremony only

2018 = 16 ceremony and reception and 3 reception only, 2 ceremony only (2 weddings cancelled in 2018)

2017 = 14 ceremony and reception, 5 reception only, 5 ceremony only

2016 = 21 ceremony and reception, 4 reception only, 1 ceremony only.

2015 = 18 ceremony and reception, 5 reception only, 4 ceremony only

Golf Maintenance Summary

In April our high averaged 55 degrees (4 degrees below average) and low averaged 42 degrees (3 degrees above average). We received about .75" (3.38" average) of rain which comes to 22% of our normal totals. For the month we saw 12 total playable* days (20%) and weekends in April we had 3 playable* days (19%), these are pretty normal for April.

*Playable is being defined as highs between 55-90 degrees and less than .05" rain.

April has been a very busy month. The lack of rain has been good for productivity of the maintenance staff, but not ideal for the turf. We have been running the irrigation system a lot more than normal for this time of year to try and keep up. The lack of rainfall has also delayed the germination of seed in areas from tree removals, irrigation repairs, or other various improvement projects. Hopefully if we can get close to normal rainfall totals next month we can get back on track with seeded areas especially outside of our irrigated zones.

As April comes to a close the chance of frosts will start to be behind us. On average our area will not see frost after the second week of May. The lack of frost and warmer temperatures in the future will be very good for turf growth, most of April we had an average growth potential of 15-29% (ideal is 60-70%).

Spring is also the time of year when we get to see how effective our herbicide applications from September were. The main weed that we target with this application is the

dandelion. Overall we are very happy with the control that we got this year. We have gone out this spring with smaller hand sprayers to touch up tree bases and a few areas that got missed or were too tight for our large spray to access last fall.

Here is a list of a few other things that we did this month.

- Started to regularly cut all playing surfaces regularly.
- Edged and cleaned up all bunkers.
- Started preventative chemical applications on playing surfaces.
- Started fertility applications.
 - Multiple granular application on tees and greens.
 - Applied granular fertilizer to driving range and clubhouse areas.
- Aerified all greens with deep tine.
- Top-dressed and verticut greens.
- Aerified all approaches and collars.
- Aerified all tees.
- Aerified traffic areas in the rough.
- Seeded greens following aerification.
- Sprayed rough areas for broadleaves (dandelions).
- Cleaned up event area and got waterfalls working.
- Started applying new mulch around clubhouse.
- Started auditing and repair the irrigation system.
- Worked on removing volunteer trees along waterlines.
- Removed dead bushes around Clubhouse.
- Worked to level 11 black tee as one edge settled over time.



April 2021

| Membership Totals | <u>4/30/2020</u> | <u>4/30/2021</u> | <u>1/01/2021</u> | <u>Var. +/-</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Totals | 2767 | 1995 | 1992 | +3 |

Member Services/Sales

- We are very happy to report we had another month of net positive (25 net positive) in April! We enrolled a total of 108 new members, and 4 members under the United Health Care Renew Active plan. April was another month of low cancellations (68) as well which helped us get in an overall **positive membership number for the first time in 2021**. All good news going into a traditionally slower summer season for new memberships.
- We are offering a student summer pass beginning May 15 and ending August 15th. The full price of the pass is \$99.00 for kids of current members and \$125.00 for all other

students. We worked with the business department and they were able to help us have the pass automatically pro-rate in the system dependent on the date of purchase.

- The email we sent out at the end of March to all previous members from the past two years with a \$0 enrollment fee offer was good through April and resulted in 12 enrollments at the end of March and 25 enrollments in April. This was a great indicator that this type of targeted and “pop-up” type of offers will work well in the coming months to get members back in.
- We had 1360 unique visits in April. So a little over 68% of our members with active passes used the facility in April at least one time.
- We were given a great opportunity from the HE Chamber to host their first in-person gathering of Business After Hours since the pause on in-person gatherings due to COVID. On Wednesday, April 21 we hosted Chamber Members and some HEParks Commissioners in our new Mind/Body Studio for this networking event. We offered tours of the facility and a short seated yoga demo to the attendees. We also offered attendees \$0 enrollment if they enrolled in a membership. This was a very successful event and did result in three new memberships from attendees and friends of attendees.
- Social Media and targeted emails continue to be our best marketing tools right now in driving membership numbers. We hope to plan some outreach throughout the summer to compliment this online and email marketing.

Operations and Fitness Departments:

- The Club Operations in Facility Rentals is ramping up with requests and bookings starting to come in for large tournament rentals and parties.
- The inspection of the climbing wall at The Club was completed in April. This is the first step necessary in getting the wall back running and being able to offer open climb and programming.
- In April, we scheduled a couple days of meet and greet with our new Registered Dietician, Shannon. At these meet and greets we offered a discounted 30 minute consultation with Shannon. We sold/booked over 25 consultations on these meet and greet days giving Shannon a great base of members to share a little knowledge with and hopefully continue on with additional sessions.
- In addition, on these same days, Dick Pond of Hoffman Estates came in and gave complimentary gait analysis to our members. Several people took advantage of this and Dick Pond reported lots of store visits as a result of these events. We look forward to a solid partnership with Dick Pond in the future.