

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, September 17, 2020
2:00 PM

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19

In accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders, members of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Committee Members and staff participated in this meeting via Zoom teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public also participated in this meeting electronically.

Committee Members Present: David Furst, Beth Wilson

LARPD Staff Present: Mathew Fuzie, Allie Ikeda, Fred Haldeman, Jill Kirk, David Weisgerber, Joseph Benjamin, Linda VanBuskirk, Nancy Blair, Natalie Kaaiahia, Patrick Lucky, Stacey Kenison, Vicki Wiedenfeld

Others Present: Stacey Swanson

1. Call to Order: Committee Chair Furst called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Program Committee meeting on July 16, 2020:

The minutes of July 16, 2020 were approved by unanimous vote with the following revisions:

- a) At Item 5, third paragraph from the bottom, add "District Counsel" before "Neumiller & Beardslee". [Wilson]
- b) At Item 4, third paragraph in under Recreation Supervisor Vicki Wiedenfeld's report, change "Cheer will be back online in two weeks" to "Cheer will be back on the field in two weeks." [Furst]

4. What's Changed with Programs in Light of the Current Health Order: (Discussion)

General Manager Mat Fuzie stated that each division manager would report on what their department is currently doing with programs being offered and what has changed in light of the current health order. He reported that both volleyball and basketball courts can now be used for programs within the guidelines of the health order. Additionally, the Air Quality Center is a component of the Cooling Center, which is activated when temperatures are high enough to open (95 degrees and an air quality index above 150 on any given day.) The City of Livermore announced today at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) meeting that the county has put together a new committee to study what Allie Ikeda and her

team did, along with the city, in setting up the Temporary Evacuation Place (TEP) here at the RLCC. This new working team will replicate Livermore's response to the TEP as a template for other places within the County.

Community Services Manager Jill Kirk reported that the biggest change for them has been that groups have increased from 12 to 14. Open Space has created a new program on Wednesday afternoons called "Sycamore Science Camp" for TK (transitional kindergarten) through 4th grade. This will continue throughout the school year with different themes. Ms. Kirk also reported that they have not been able to continue the Grant Watershed Program because they cannot go into the classrooms. Instead, the Rangers have created an online watershed program so that they may present virtually should the schools allow this to be a part of their curriculum.

Youth Services Supervisor Nancy Blair reported that distance learning has been easier, although they do experience some internet challenges, but the school district has given LARPD some "hot spots" which helps in some areas. Enrollment in each classroom has increased to 14 kids, so in our 22 rooms we will add two additional students, since our last report.

Community Outreach Supervisor David Weisgerber reported on Senior Services programs. They continue to offer virtual and outdoor classes along with Zoom socials. They have been working on a foot care project with partner Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. In August, the Open Heart Kitchen meal program at RLCC served 1987 senior meals, and 3444 hot meals. The Safe Parking program served 25 cars/occupants in July.

Recreation Supervisor Vicki Wiedenfeld announced that outdoor PE camps and other outdoor camps have begun this week. LARPD is now able to open up the volleyball and basketball courts. The Alameda County Health Department has given approval to open up the gymnasium for these specific camps. Groups will be in the gymnasium Monday through Thursday in later afternoon/early evening for the basketball camps. Field hockey will be returning to the field this week. Travel baseball and softball groups will be starting next week. They are also limited to 14 in these groups. In response to Chair Furst's question, Ms. Wiedenfeld responded that the number of programs now offered is approximately 10-20% of what we were able to offer before the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that we are able to open the gym, those numbers should begin to rise.

Recreation Department Manager Allie Ikeda announced that LARPD will be offering a Halloween event called Trunk and Boo (a spin on Trunk and Treat) on Saturday, 10/24 between 3-5pm. Cost is \$20 per vehicle. This will be held in the Loyola parking lot, socially distanced, where families may decorate their vehicle's trunk, come in costume, and enter various contests. Public member Stacey Swanson asked if the LARPD Foundation could help subsidize the cost. GM Fuzie responded this would take coordination to create a scholarship and application. Mr. Weisgerber added that there are funds remaining in the Community Support Program currently set up which is funded through the Foundation. The application is posted on the LARPD website.

Aquatics Supervisor Patrick Lucky reported on Aquatics programs. Water polo camps are now being held five days a week. Swim camps are open as well. Lap swim began this Wednesday. In response to Chair Furst's question, Mr. Lucky responded that Aquatics is now at approximately 15-20% of full programming, since we are only allowed to offer one type of program at a time.

Ms. Ikeda reported (on behalf of Recreation Supervisor Joseph Benjamin) that under the current health order, we do have the ability to offer small cultural ceremonies up to 25 people, socially distanced. We've scheduled six "minimonies" at the Ravenswood site. We are now able to serve pre-packaged food items, and can allow a champagne toast during the ceremonies. Each ceremony may last up to four hours, including set up, take down and event time. In response to Director Wilson's question, GM Fuzie added that LARPD has been working with the city on the enforcement aspect of the health orders. We are the informational and compliance arm; if we cannot gain compliance, then we are to call them for enforcements.

Ms. Ikeda reported (on behalf of Front Counter Coordinator Natalie Kaaiawahia) that the RLCC front counter is open M-F from 8am-2pm with online and over-the-phone service. The front counter staff has been busy assisting the public with registrations, cancellations and general questions.

Marketing and Public Information Officer Stacey Kenison reported on special events changing from in-person to virtual since the COVID-19 pandemic. She announced the current 50 in 50 Fitness Challenge running through mid-October. Unity Day is coming up on October 21st. The Children's Fair had to be cancelled, and the virtual Dogtoberfest will also be cancelled. She reported that the online Activity Guide has been quite successful. In response to Director Furst's question, Ms. Kenison stated that the online Activity Guide may be translated into Spanish through Google Translate on websites. Director Wilson suggested "may be translated" be listed on the guide.

Parks and Facilities Manager Fred Haldeman reported that his crew has been cleaning up and working on projects at the Sunset Playground, Bill Payne Park, Marlin Pound, and sand removal at Bill Clark Park.

This was discussion only and no committee recommendations were made nor action taken.

5. Matters Initiated:

- a) GM Fuzie reported that he met with the Ravenswood Progress League. They've had a change in leadership and have recently found out that much of their tax reporting is out-of-date, and they've lost their non-profit status. They are working with Steve Goodman and others who can advise them on how to proceed. They will be re-evaluating their goals and applying that evaluation to their future.

6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.