

Recreation Committee

Monday, February 7, 2011

Chairperson Gaffney called the meeting to order at 6:10pm. In attendance were Chairperson Gaffney, Commissioner John Kelly, Superintendent of Recreation Desjardins, and Director of Parks and Recreation Wilson.

Desjardins addressed two questions that had been asked by Commissioners Long and Gaffney in recent Board meetings – one regarding a volleyball instructor and one regarding fitness equipment (machines #4 & #5). In addition, Desjardins offered some insight into the cost/revenue/benefits of the current babysitting room. Desjardins suggested that it may be more accurate to ask her when questions such as this arise, rather than asking program instructors.

Desjardins distributed finalized RecTrac reports showing the results of the January fitness special. Brief discussion ensued on the special. Desjardins informed the committee that the RecTrac system is scheduled for a significant upgrade in April 2011.

Chairperson Gaffney stated that he received a complaint regarding the cleanliness of the men's locker room on weekends and asked Desjardins if the current custodial staff is sufficient or if additional custodial staff is required. Desjardins explained the usual pattern of performance of the current staff and stated that if another person is required it would be a part-time custodian position.

Desjardins asked for the committee's direction on the exact work hours the Board requires for secretary Lynette Davenport, as a board member has repeatedly expressed dissatisfaction with Davenport's hours. Discussion ensued and the committee directed that Desjardins will determine Davenport's hours based on the needs of the Eisenhower Center. In addition, Desjardins asked that the committee direct the work hours for the Superintendent of Recreation and Fitness/Aquatic Supervisor as those hours have also been repeatedly questioned. Director Wilson reminded the committee that staff hours are exclusively determined by him. Commissioner Kelly asked that the subject be discussed in a Personnel and Finance Committee meeting.

Chairperson Gaffney suggested that the Eisenhower Center be open on non-essential holidays such as Memorial Day and Labor Day. Discussion ensued on the financial pros and cons to this change. Commissioner Kelly expressed his opinion that the additional hours were unnecessary as few patrons inquire about the issue and local competing fitness centers are not open on holidays. Gaffney directed Desjardins to prepare some budget figures reflecting the cost of these additional hours.

Desjardins stated that a complete listing of new recreational programs was unavailable as the lists are not yet finalized, but stated that new programs discussed among the staff for summer will primarily be theme camps, a program selection for college students home from school, and perhaps a new fitness offering. Gaffney inquired about the amount of time swim lessons are offered in the indoor pool as he received a fitness member complaint. Desjardins explained the posted rules in the pool area regarding programming, the Board's current policy, the limited amount of time devoted to swim lessons, and the pool programming calendar posted in the fitness lobby for all fitness members to review.

With no further business, Chairperson Gaffney adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon Desjardins

Superintendent of Recreation