

## Recreation Department Directors Report- January 26, 2021

The monthly Director's report is designed to update you on the activities the Recreation Department is working on.

1. Ice Rinks: Vernon Rink has reopened and the new chiller is working great. The rental hours continue to be down from last year due to the restricted activities under the NYS guidelines. The City is meeting with Skidmore College for the potential of a shorten season starting in February. I will update the commission once a decision has been made.
2. Outdoor Skating: I scheduled a meeting with the COVID team and DPW on January 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss operating public skating outdoors. DPW canceled that morning but the COVID team did meet and approved both indoor and outdoor public skating. Since I haven't been able to reschedule with DPW to discuss outdoor skating, we reopened Open Public, Family Skate, Open Stick, and our new Family Stick indoors on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Traditionally these programs have been drop in sessions but for safety reasons and tracking purposes we created a reservation process. We sold out the weekend for Open Public and Family Skate while having a few register for the Stick sessions. Overall it was very successful. As for outdoor skating I still hope to work with DPW but due to time I haven't been able to reschedule with them.
3. Programs: We continue to work the COVID team to reopen programs. Below is our current/planned programs.
  - Winter Sessions
    - a. Tiny Basketball (3-5yr olds)
    - b. Intro to Basketball (K-1<sup>st</sup> grade)
    - c. Instructional Boys/Girls Basketball (2-8<sup>th</sup> grade)
    - d. Volleyball (8-15yrs old)
    - e. Intro to Ice skating (3-99+)
    - f. Open Pickleball and Pickleball League (Adults)
    - g. Racquetball Drop in rental
    - h. Open Figure
    - i. Open Public Skating, Family Skate, Open Stick, Family Stick (All Ages) (reservation required)
    - j. Launching Open Gym (All Ages) soon...
  - Spring sessions
    - k. Little and Big Kickers (3-5yr olds and K)
    - l. Soccer League (1-12<sup>th</sup> grade)
    - m. Adult Soccer (Adults)
    - n. Tee Ball (3-5yr olds) and Jr Sluggers (K-3<sup>rd</sup>)
    - o. Intro to Ice skating (3-99+)
    - p. Open Pickleball (Adults)
    - q. Working on Pickleball League Outdoors and Challenger's soccer
4. Credit Card Fees: Our new system charges a rate of 2.60% for the use of credit cards. This fee is billed to the Recreation Department each month. It was discussed to pass this fee onto the customer at the time of the transaction or increase rates to cover the fees. After review, I believe the best option is for the Recreation Department to continue to pay the fee. Since the fee is paid out of a specific account code which was not fully funded we will transfer money from our basketball ref line, advertising line, and camp transportation line to cover the estimated amount. We estimate about \$11,500 to \$12,000 per year will be needed. Although this seems high, if this fee is passed to the customer as an additional cost it could result in customers choosing to make payments by check or cash, both of which cost administrative time and money. Or worse, people may not sign up. In addition, since we can cover this cost for 2021 it seems like this is in the best interest of our customers.
5. East and West Side Rec Maintenance and Use Agreement- The city renewed the agreement for 1 year.