

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, July 16, 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, Patricia Lord, Jeffrey Schneider, Allie Ikeda, Fred Haldeman, Jill Kirk, David Weisgerber, Joseph Benjamin, Linda VanBuskirk, Megan O'Connor, Nancy Blair, Natalie Kaaiawahia, Patrick Lucky, Sandra Kaya, Stacey Kenison, Vicki Wiedenfeld

Others Present: Stacey Swanson

- 1. Call to Order:** 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 June 18, 2020:**
The minutes of June 18, 2020 were approved as submitted by unanimous vote.
- 4. Current Programs Being Offered (or Not Offered) this Summer:** (Discussion)
General Manager Mat Fuzie stated that each division manager would report on their programs being offered and/or not offered during the summer of 2020.

Aquatics Supervisor Patrick Lucky reported on Aquatics programs. Swim team has been reformatted to a swim camp, and a modified water polo camp is offered as a skills and drills camp. Social distancing is strictly monitored. Adult recreational fitness does not fall under outdoor fitness programs currently allowed by Alameda County Health Order protocols.

GM Fuzie announced that LARPD Board Candidate, Stacey Swanson, joined the webinar. Chair Furst offered to reopen Public Comment. Ms. Swanson stated she had no public comments to make at this time.

Recreation Supervisor Vicki Wiedenfeld reported on the Stay and Play Summer Camps. The first session began July 6th, and a second session is slated to begin July 27th. Sessions are held at the RLCC. An outdoor Skyhawks Camp at Cayetano Park (a PE camp) just concluded. She reported that Fusion Soccer and West Coast Soccer are back on the fields. Cheer will be back online in two weeks. Youth Football has asked to come back, but at this time contact sports are not allowed. Adult leagues have not been playing due to the restrictions on contact sports. This includes basketball, softball, Ultimate Frisbee, etc. Pickleball, however, remains very active at Livermore Downs. Tennis courts are open. The Junior Giants program is being offered virtually.

Community Outreach Supervisor David Weisgerber reported on Senior Services programs. Senior trips plus any indoor classes or socials have been put on hold due to the pandemic. Virtual classes or YouTube videos have been produced for various classes such as flower arranging, crafting, and cooking, with more on the way such as estate planning and memoir writing classes. Zoom classes, such as virtual Zumba, have proven to be quite popular. A chair yoga series of virtual classes will be offered beginning in August. Outdoor fitness classes (Zumba, tai chi, light and easy aerobics, and line dancing) began in June/July within the safety protocols. Curbside pickup at the RLCC has continued and is a way to provide hot meals to the seniors and others. The Safe Parking Program is ongoing.

Youth Services Supervisor Nancy Blair reported that there are 19 rooms open for ESS programs. They are currently serving 180 children in total. Classrooms are limited to 12 students at a time. LARPD will not be conducting preschool programs or PAL this summer. Staff has been working closely with Lisa Erickson of the Alameda County Public Health Office to ensure that proper protocol is followed, especially concerning room stabilization and social bubbles. Staff has also been working on a fee structure and bringing staff back in preparation for distance learning when school opens again in August.

Community Services Manager Jill Kirk added that they have been working with the school district in order to provide families with the best options available. She then reported on Open Space programs such as Camp Sycamore, similar in structure to Ms. Wiedenfeld's camps, in that they are limited to outdoors and 12 kids per group. Open Space is running the Hoot Owl program, and various weekend programs. Ranger Amy Wolitzer continues to engage the public via LARPD's Instagram and Facebook pages. She reported that Camp Shelly will be closed this season. Rangers will return in the fall to ascertain what work will need to be done in order to get Camp Shelly ready for next summer.

Recreation Supervisor (Facility Rental & Operations) Joseph Benjamin reported that LARPD has not been renting facilities at this time. The team has been researching the possibility of renting out space for "minimonies", wedding ceremonies with 12 people at most. These will be followed up in 2021 by "the sequel", or the reception party. Staff has been working on

providing refunds for the larger weddings there were previously booked, and due to COVID-19 must now be canceled.

Recreation Department Manager Allie Ikeda added that Mr. Benjamin's team is also responsible for District-wide custodial services, so his team has been keeping park restrooms clean daily. They also support currently-operating programs for set-up and take-down, including daily cleaning and disinfection of high-touch points.

Marketing and Public Information Officer Stacey Kenison reported that much work is being done to get the word out to the public and increase participation for the programs spoken about above. This is accomplished through the District's website and social media engagement. She highlighted the "Pack It In/Pack It Out" campaign, "Find Me Friday", a scavenger hunt, and an upcoming family fitness challenge. Some of the traditional events such as Dogtoberfest, Applefest, and the Children's Fair will be canceled this season, but staff is researching different ways to engage the community with these events via social media and the website.

The Committee expressed appreciation that LARPD staff utilizes in-house staff for cleaning facilities rather than hiring out subcontractors to do this work during the pandemic. Committee members further expressed gratitude to all LARPD staff for doing a very good job during a fluid situation. Many decisions must be made to keep up with the changing health orders, and staff continues to work hard and creatively to plan and execute the District's changing programs.

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

5. Programming and Finances in 2021 and Beyond: (Discussion)

Committee Chair Furst stated that he has heard from the Alameda County Public Health community that, even with a vaccine on its way, businesses should prepare for the possibility of continued mandates such as mask wearing and social distancing throughout all of 2021 and into 2022. Although COVID-19 outbreak conditions are constantly changing, LARPD must consider how to maintain financial security if it will not be able to bring back additional programs through next year and beyond.

GM Fuzie reported that LARPD has created an Ad Hoc re: Budget Committee to discuss these future considerations. Staff has been tracking what current programs are allowed to provide and will continue to discuss what we believe will be a sustainable level of programming. Staff has been conducting analyses of the District's tax base, along with the addition of the Special Tax, and what can be developed beyond that through programming. GM Fuzie added that the ad hoc committee will complete this task fairly soon, so the full board will then review its findings and recommendations in the near future.

Administrative Services Manager Jeffrey Schneider added that Staff has been and will continue to rigorously assess the financial impact of the programs that each department is considering, and staffing accordingly. Up to this point, cash projections have been on target and there is a framework in place. As new information comes in from the Health Department, we will continue to refine the assumptions.

GM Fuzie reported that, although LARPD is currently not eligible for relief under the CARES Act, the City of Livermore is eligible and will be receiving approximately \$1.13M as a result. Through continued inter-agency meetings, the City recognizes that LARPD is a contributing factor to the wellness of the community, and has asked for documentation of LARPD's expenditures so that they may consider its expenditures for reimbursement. LARPD will continue to work with the city and will report to the Board any revenue or income that comes in as a result of this inter-agency cooperative effort.

ASM Schneider reported that the District is working to confirm an opportunity that may exist to fund the Michell ESS buildings with AB 1600 funds. Staff has been working with Neumiller & Beardslee on this matter. More information will follow as this develops. If successful, this could potentially save the District \$600K during this fiscal year, and more beyond that.

The Committee thanked GM Fuzie for keeping the Board informed of all the different and constant changes during this time, and also thanked Staff for their ongoing hard work and creative resourcefulness during the pandemic.

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

6. Matters Initiated: None.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.