

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Manager's Updates: Recreation Division– January 2021

I. Sports Section (Aquatics & Athletics)

1. Attendance at city pools for the month of January was 4,534. Recreational swim has still not been allowed, and lap swim and teams are the only users at this time due to COVID-19 restrictions.
2. **High School water polo season** began January 11. Practices for GHS and BHS (new this year) are being held at Hunter pool.
3. The **PVC vinyl pool liner replacement at Mickle Pool** project is in full swing and is expected to be finished by March 3rd.
4. **The shade structures at Cherry Pool bid**, has been awarded to Creative Shade Solutions. They are currently working on a permitting plan.
5. **H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool House renovation** designs are moving along well with expected renovations occurring fall/winter 2021.
6. **Pickle Ball:** Pick-up play continues in the spring at the MLK Center, in the mornings.
7. **Citywide Tennis Services:** USTA-FL staff continues to set programming and add events and activities to their website. For court reservations, program information, and other general information, patrons can visit www.playtennisgainesville.com.
8. **Youth Basketball** is halfway through their season, ending February 27. We are restricting spectators at MLK to 1 parent per athlete to keep the capacity of MLK under 50 at this time due to COVID-19 restrictions. We have successfully started live streaming the games on Youtube.
9. **Adult Softball** began February 1st. We have modified some rules and not permitting use of the dugouts to afford space for social distancing. First games with the new rules have gone well, and participants are glad to have softball back up and running.
10. **Gainesville Youth Sports:** Information on the spring season can be found at www.gainesvilleyouthsports.com. Gainesville Youth Sports provides both youth baseball and girls fast-pitch softball programs, utilizing Albert Ray Massey Park, Greentree Park, and Tom Petty Park. The park improvement project at Albert Ray Massey (Westside) Park to improve drainage around the ball fields is nearly complete. The fields affected by the project are open and ready for use.
11. **National Flag Football:** Registration for the spring season is open, and parents can register their children on NFF's website at www.nationalflagfootball.com. Games are played on Sunday afternoons at Possum Creek Park, and will begin on April 11th.

II. Education Section - JANUARY

1. Staffing Report.

In total, there is one vacancy in the Education Section, a Recreation Aide II position. The job advertisement for the vacant Recreation Aide II position posted on January 13, 2021 and will close on February 14, 2021.

2. Net Revenue Report.

ARM: Foundations Academy After-School Program - (\$78.00)

ARM: Out of School Days - \$79.25

3. Attendance Report.

ARM: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 129

ARM: Out of School Day (Jan. 29) - 9

ESRC: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 109

PTS: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 83

PHX: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 90

4. Affiliations.

Recreation Supervisor Donald Johnson was invited to join the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Awards & Scholarship Committee for 2021. He is one of three new invitees to the committee; the membership commitment is for one year, with up to a three-year membership option.

5. Programming: Out of School Day.

ARM: Out of School Day (Jan. 29) at Albert "Ray" Massey; there were 11 total enrolled, the fill rate was 36%.

ESRC: Out of School Day (Jan. 29) at Eastside was cancelled due to low enrollment. Registration was closed on January 27, 2021.

6. Programming: Foundations Academy After-School Program.

The Foundations Academy After-School Program resumed on January 4, 2021 from a hiatus which began on December 18, 2020 in conjunction with the ACPS Winter Holidays period.

-A partnership with The Florida Museum of Natural History expanded to Eastside for their "Science Surprises" program. After-school participants explore the science of nature while having fun with physics, chemistry, and engineering by engaging in hands-on, inquiry based activities. The program is structured as a 4-part series (each session is approximately 30-60 minutes) and includes a train-the-trainer model for Education Section staff before each session allowing for on-site support during activities while instruction is conducted virtually by The Florida Museum of Natural History staff.

Series Dates:

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

III. Facilities Section

1. The MLK Multipurpose Center is currently open for Pickleball and open gym. Most days Pickleball players are active and show up during the open court times of 7am- 10am. Pickleball user number fluctuate from day to day with an average of about 11 players per day. Overall the Pickleball community is very excited to be continuing play at the MLK Center.
2. We are currently reviewing applications and will start interviewing the week of February 8.
3. We have worked with other city and county departments to administer Covid vaccines at the MLK location. There has been good cooperation and successful days during the vaccination times. We are looking forward to the other opportunities to come together with others in efforts of providing a much needed public service.
4. There has been some usage on fields from community user groups starting back the play of youth and adult sports. They are all required to submit safety plans regarding their focus on reducing the transmission of Covid 19. Most users have been understanding and providing the requested information.
5. Overall, the facilities section is working well within the current COVID restrictions. Staff is doing their part in practicing being safe and ensuring that safety standards are being followed. I am very proud of the work they have done and continue to do under the current circumstances.

IV. Wild Spaces Public Places Updates

1. *The Wild Spaces and Public Places webpages are active on the City's website:*
<http://www.cityofgainesville.org/WildSpacesandPublicPlaces.aspx>.
2. *This month's WSPP Project Updates:*

As of January 2021

Unity Park and Flatwoods Conservation Area Trailhead Improvements: The City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, is pleased to announce that work is underway at Unity Park, a new neighborhood park located at 1700 NE 31st Ave. Improvements to the park include two new basketball courts, a community garden, playground equipment, sidewalk games, a pavilion, grill and a walking loop with fitness stations. The Flatwoods Conservation Area Trailhead, located nearby at 2010 NE 31st Ave., will also be renovated. The approximate project cost is \$1,043,721 and work should be complete in the spring of 2021. AKEA, Inc. a local, minority, certified service-disabled veteran owned small business, is the general contractor for the project. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.

H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool – Sun Shades: The City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, is pleased to announce that Creative Shade Solutions will be installing four 20'x 30' shade structures at the H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool located at 1001 NW 31st Drive. The project cost is \$33,900.00 and work is anticipated to complete by March 31, 2021. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.

Dwight H. Hunter Pool – Men's Locker Room Renovations: The City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, is pleased

to announce that Elevated Design & Construction, LLC will be renovating the men's locker room at the Dwight H. Hunter Pool located at 1100 NE 14th St. The locker room will get new privacy partitions in the bathroom area, upgraded LED lighting throughout, and the addition of wall-mounted mirrors. The project cost is \$19,675.00 and work is anticipated to complete by February 15, 2021. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.

T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex Pavilion Roof Replacements: The City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, is pleased to announce that Advanced Roofing, Inc. will be replacing the pavilion roofs at T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex located at 1717 SE 15th St. The existing shingle roofs were already removed and will be replaced with new 2"x 6" Tongue & Groove underlayment and new metal roofing panels. The project cost is \$17,888.00 and work is anticipated to complete by mid-February 2021. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.