

Manager's Updates: Recreation Division– September 2021

I. Sports Section (Aquatics & Athletics)

1. Attendance at city pools for the month of September was 7,428. Recreational swim is available by appointment at Hunter and Mickle pools.
2. **Splashpads at Cherry and Hunter pools** are under contract for pump replacements as well as other preventative maintenance.
3. **H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool House renovation** designs have gone out to bid, expected renovations occurring soon.
4. **H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool** parking lot and pool liner have been added to the WSPP list for next fiscal year. We are currently working with a pool company to revise the scope of work in order to include new gutters and returns after finding leaks in the system this summer.
5. **320 participants** took swim lessons at the City pools this year. We are looking forward to beginning swim lessons again in April 2022.
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. **Pop Warner Football and Cheer** has begun. We have **3** cheer teams and **3** football teams practicing. We had our first home game on Oct 2 and it went well.
9. **Youth Basketball** registration opened for neighbors and community builders on October 1. Registration for non-residents will open on October 11.
10. **Adult Softball** Fall league began September 21 and will run through December 13. We have 12 teams on Tuesday and 10 teams on Fridays.
11. **Gainesville Youth Sports:** Information on the fall 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.
12. **National Flag Football:** Registration is still open for another flag football season at Possum Creek Park. Flyers went to schools and the season is anticipated to begin October 17.

II. Education Section - SEPTEMBER

1. Staffing Report.

In total, there are three full-time vacancies in the Education Section, a Program Coordinator position and two Recreation Aide II positions.

-Panel interviews were extended to candidates for the Program Coordinator position on October 1, 2021.

-Two candidates were selected, for which a Hiring Request memo was submitted on September 21, 2021 to extend an offer for a Recreation Aide II position.

2. Net Revenue Report.

ARM: Foundations Academy After-School Program - \$312.00

ESRC: Foundations Academy After-School Program - \$83.00

MLK: Start Smart Basketball - \$765.00

ARM: Out of School Days - \$26.00

3. Attendance Report.

ARM: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 348

ESRC: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 169

PTS: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 63

MLK: Start Smart Soccer - 39

4. Programming: Out of School Days.

ARM & ESRC: The Out of School Days programming, offered at both Albert “Ray” Massey Recreation Center and Eastside Community Center, opened enrollment June 1 and will operate on the following dates:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Friday, October 8, 2021 | • Monday, December 20, 2021 | • Monday, January 3, 2022 |
| • Friday, October 15, 2021 | • Tuesday, December 21, 2021 | • Friday, January 14, 2022 |
| • Monday, November 22, 2021 | • Wednesday, December 22, 2021 | • Monday, February 21, 2022 |
| • Tuesday, November 23, 2021 | | • Monday, March 28, 2022 |

Out of School Days provide children and youth in grades 1 through 8 with a safe and engaging environment that incorporates hands-on activities. Activities will effectively adapt to individual and small group needs, connecting with participants’ interests and experiences including: academics and enrichment, community service projects, field trips, physical activity and nutrition.

5. Programming: Start Smart Basketball.

MLK: Start Smart Basketball at Martin Luther King Jr. opened enrollment September 1 and will operate October 25 through November 29 on Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a total of 6 sessions. **A total of 20 enrollment slots are available, 17 participants are currently enrolled.**

Start Smart Basketball is a developmentally appropriate introductory sport specific program that prepares children 3-5 years old and their parents for organized sports in a fun non-threatening environment. Parent participation was required.

III. Facilities Section

1. We completed the interviews for the temp. Facility assistants. No candidates were selected and we are seeking to re advertise for the position.
2. We are continuing to work with organizations on reinstating there long term rentals, as well as new organizations that maybe interested in helping provide needed services to the public.
3. We are currently receiving requests weekly for the use of facilities to host repasses for passing family members. We have been doing a great job of being able to address the needs of the neighbors and ensuring the availability of a facility for use during these times.
4. The facility staff has been doing an exceptional job. Their ability to remain professional in tough situations, all while providing a safe environment for our patrons, shows the pride they have in their jobs.

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:

Current Projects:

Ironwood Golf Course Cart Path Reconstruction: Work is anticipated to begin in mid-October to reconstruct portions of the Ironwood Golf Course concrete cart path. The City of Gainesville's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, working in partnership with the Wild Spaces & Public Places program, hired Shine & Company, Inc. to perform the work. The project is anticipated to complete by mid-December 2021. The golf course will remain open during construction and golfers will be guided around the areas of work. The construction project cost is approximately \$178,600. For more information, please contact Betsy Waite, project manager, at 352-393-8187 or waiteed@cityofgainesville.org.

Loblolly Woods Park Boardwalk Reconstruction: Work is underway to reconstruct the boardwalk at Loblolly Woods Nature Park, spanning from NW 8th Avenue approximately 1400 feet north. The boardwalk has been closed to the public since August 2020. Severe wood rot created a safety hazard that was beyond the capacity of City staff to repair. The City of Gainesville's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, working in partnership with the Wild Spaces & Public Places program, hired IMS Contracting, Inc. to reconstruct the boardwalks. The work began on August 23, 2021 and is anticipated to complete by February of 2022. The construction project cost is approximately \$370,287. For more information, please contact Betsy Waite, project manager, at 352-393-8187 or waiteed@cityofgainesville.org.

Howard Bishop Recreation Area: The City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department and in partnership with the School Board of Alachua County, is pleased to announce that renovations of the track and tennis/basketball courts at Howard Bishop Middle School, located at 1901 NE 9th St., began in June and are anticipated to complete by the end of October 2021. D.E. Scorpio Corporation, a local business, is the general contractor for the project. The City of Gainesville's portion of the construction project cost is \$250,000. For more information, please contact Betsy Waite, project manager, at 352-393-8187 or waiteed@cityofgainesville.org.

Albert "Ray" Massey Park - Retaining Wall 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 construction of a new retaining wall by the baseball scorer's box, between fields 1 and 2, began in May and is anticipated to complete by mid-October. Elevated Design & Construction, LLC a small, local, minority-owned business, is the general contractor for the project. The construction project cost is \$31,700.00. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.

Clarence R. Kelly Community Center and Park: 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 construction of the new **Clarence R. Kelly Community Center and Park, located at 1701 NE 8th Avenue, began on April 19th.** Improvements include the construction of a new 3,800 SF community center and neighborhood park. The park will have a new playground, adult fitness equipment, a full-sized, lighted basketball court, a fenced community garden and much more. Blackwater Construction Services, LLC, a small, local business, is the general contractor for the project. The construction project cost is \$2,292,276.00 and work will be complete in early 2022. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.

3. H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool House renovation designs have gone out to bid, expected renovations occurring soon.