

Manager's Updates: Recreation Division– October, 2021

I. Sports Section (Aquatics & Athletics)

1. Attendance at city pools for the month of September was 7,438. Recreational swim is available by appointment at Hunter and Mickle pools.
2. **Splashpads at Cherry and Hunter pools** are still 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 this 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. **Pickle Ball:** Pick-up play continues in the spring at the MLK Center, in the mornings.
6. **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.
7. **Pop Warner Football and Cheer** is coming toward the end of the season. We have **2** cheer teams and **2** football teams still participating. **2** cheer teams have qualified for regionals held thanksgiving weekend and our 8U and 12U football teams have won the league championship and begin regional playoffs in Palatka on November 6.
8. **Youth Basketball** registration is currently open. Registration ends November 29. Practice begins the week of December 13 and games begin January 8.
9. **Adult Softball** Fall league is beyond the halfway point of the regular season. It is expected to run through December 13. We have 12 teams on Tuesdays and 10 teams on Fridays.
10. **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.
11. **National Flag Football:** Another flag football season has begun at Possum Creek Park on October 17.

II. Education Section - OCTOBER

1. Staffing Report.

Johnathan Williams joined the team as a new hire, filling a vacancy for a Recreation Aide II, on October 11, 2021.

Brittney Bright joined the team as a new hire, filling a vacancy for a Recreation Assistant, on October 11, 2021.

Kember Griffis separated employment with the City effective October 8, 2021 creating a vacancy for a Recreation Aide II.

Kam'rn Hopkins separated employment with the City effective October 22, 2021 creating a vacancy for a Recreation Assistant.

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

-Job advertisement was reposted for Program Coordinator on October 15, 2021 to seek additional candidates; the posting closes on November 1, 2021.

-Job advertisement was reposted for Recreation Aide II on October 11, 2021 to seek additional candidates; the posting closes on November 1, 2021.

-Three candidates were selected, for which Hiring Request memos were submitted on October 4, 2021 and October 26, 2021 to extend an offer for a Recreation Assistant position.

2. Net Revenue Report.

ESRC: Foundations Academy After-School Program - \$164.00

ARM: Out of School Days - \$554.75

ESRC: Out of School Days - \$52.00

ARM: Winter Break Camp - \$58.00

MLK: Start Smart Basketball - \$292.50

ARM: Lil' Cooking Club - \$550.00

3. Attendance Report.

ARM: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 399

ESRC: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 136

PTS: Foundations Academy After-School Program - 53

ARM: Out of School Days - 33

MLK: Start Smart Basketball - 20

4. Programming: Start Smart Sports Development Program (preschool)

In total, 46 out of 50 spots filled this year over 3 sports offerings (baseball, soccer, and basketball - 9 waitlisted). Of the 46 enrollments, 27 were unique customers, of which 16 were boys and 11 were girls. **Total net revenue generated was \$2,250.00 (baseball - \$450.00, soccer - \$742.50, and basketball - \$1,057.50).** Due to the overwhelming positive response, we will continue the 3 sports offerings annually until evaluation and feedback indicates negative or non-responsiveness.

Start Smart Sports Development Program was developed by top motor skill development specialists in the field of youth sports. Parent-child groups perform motor skill tasks that gradually build confidence in children while they are having fun at the same time.

Start Smart participants will develop proper motor skills without the threat of competition or the fear of getting hurt that will allow them to enjoy and succeed in their youth sports future!

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 began on October 19th 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 mid-November 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.

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 is anticipated to complete in March of 2022. For more information, please contact Pete McNiece, project manager, at 352-393-8544 or mcniecepr@cityofgainesville.org.