

Staff Report for May 16th 2018

Programs

17-Apr	Intro to Pickleball	4	They've all continued to play
Apr/May	Pickleball Drop-Ins	Averages ~11	
1-May	Swim Team Tryouts	1	
5-May	Oyster Gardening	5 families	
9-May	Swim Registration Opens at 9AM		

Pickleball

Our picklers are a great bunch, and so grateful for the opportunity to play on South Whidbey. We're averaging around 11 drop-ins plus the 5 full-timers. There is some balking at the fee. We're awaiting a meeting with the school district to discuss the use of the South Whidbey Community Center (the old middle school) beyond June. The picklers would like to continue indefinitely.

Whidbey Island Triathlon

We're already over 1/2 full at 175+ sign-ups. This is significantly ahead of where we've been at this time over the past 5 years. Our limit is 300 bikes, though that's actually a pretty challenging level for us to manage. We're limited by the space for staging the swim-to-bike transition at Goss Lake. The triathlon is July 28.

Scholarship Funds for Seniors

We'd like to discuss the possibility of expanding our recreation scholarship fund to include a needs-based option for senior applicants in the coming budget cycle.

Swim Lessons

We increased our swim lesson capacity by 97% (202→398) this year, thanks to increased availability for renting the Useless Bay Golf & Country Club. We added 2 weeks at the end of summer and a 3rd time slot all summer. Open registration day was fairly busy, but classes are filling slower, due to the increased capacity. Also, more UBGCC members took advantage of their priority registration period. By the end of the first day of open registration, we had sold ~265 lessons.

Sports for Dogs

There was a nice article on our Canine Sports Sampler class in the Record:

<https://www.southwhidbeyrecord.com/life/sampler-class-keeps-dogs-active-happy/>.

Facilities and Grounds

- This month we are playing catchup everywhere in the park. The grass is exploding everything is growing in every corner so mowing and weed eating is our daily mission.
- Baseball and Soccer are in full swing and going well. We are firing up all irrigation and trouble shooting various problems, the controller at the baseball side internally shorted and we are replacing it hopefully next week.
- We had a report of a structure being constructed in our woods about 200 ft off of our main trail, we removed it after discovery.
- Fishing has opened at the lakes and usage is up as a result we are patrolling more frequently and trying to keep up on the cleanup as needed.

Director's Items

Grant applications have been submitted and I am continuing the work on Presentations for the grant process. I attended the WRPA conference in Seatac May 1-3. Lots of good sessions including information on a partnership playground constructed with a Rotary Club in Bellevue, Some information on Homeless and how to deal with them, and planning for an active threat in facilities. Also was very pleased that Representative Norma Smith attended the awards banquet and was presented with a plaque by the WRPA for her efforts on the Capital Budget and resolving the issues with the grant programs being held up. She was one of 8 Representatives and Senators honored and one of three that showed up. Thanks so much Norma!

Pictured below-Myself, Representative Norma Smith, Larry Otos-Former Mount Vernon Parks Director, Brian Adams-Skagit County Parks Director



I have been invited to represent our District at a trails meeting in Langley on May 17 (listed in the calendar below) and will speak about our existing trails, the property acquisition plan, and our plans to continue to work with the County on an interlinked trail network. Feel free to attend if you would like to, just let me know.

I am now looking at Technical review for the WWRP-Local Parks projects the week of May 21st, I will be out of the office all week reviewing grant proposals in Olympia. I look forward to it, followed by a week-long vacation immediately thereafter.

Upcoming Events

May 16	SWPRD Regular Board Meeting-Conference Room-6pm
May 17	Trails Meeting-Langley United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall-6:30-8:30pm
May 28	Memorial Day-SWPRD Office Closed
June 7	Adult Co-ed Softball League team registration deadline
June 12	Adult Co-ed Softball Team Managers Meeting
June 15	Fall program proposals due
June 16	Chum Run
June 20	SWPRD Board Workshop-Projects 6:00pm Conference Room
June 20	SWPRD Regular Board Meeting-6:30pm Conference Room