

# Staff Report for September 19<sup>th</sup> 2018

## Programs

### Last Month

10-Aug	Skim Skool	25	
13-Aug	Art Camp	3	Cancel due to low enrollment
13-Aug	Archery	18	
13-Aug	Earth Skills Camp	19	Added an instructor and more kids due to popularity.
15-Aug	Concert in the Park	~100	The F Street Project was a great band!
20-Aug	Science & Nature Camp	19	Added an instructor and more kids due to popularity.

### Coming Up

22-Sep	Children's Day	
30-Sep	Girls' Traveling Basketball Team Registration Deadline for Grades 7-8	

### Fall Activity Guide

New inside: Outdoor Navigation for Intermediates, Reading with Rover. The South Whidbey School District schedule early release days most Wednesdays. We've pulled together a couple of programs to coincide with those days, including a new after school art club.

### Swim Programs

By adding a 4<sup>th</sup> 2-week session and adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> time slot in each session we were able to increase our swim lesson sign-ups from 199 last year to 323 this year. This included our trial of the new Parent-Tot Swim Class that was very popular.

### Pickleball

A Pickleball court has been painted in the parking lot at the sports complex. Pickleball is continuing to be a popular program, though numbers diminished a bit in August, presumably due to vacations, etc. As the program continues to develop and grow, some of the questions we're addressing are:

- How do we accommodate requests for competitive "level play" with limited resources (staffing and gym availability), while making "open/recreation play" a priority?
- How do we facilitate use of the outdoor court?
- How do we ensure that we keep the fee at a price-point that doesn't turn folks away, while covering staffing and rental fees?

## Facilities and Grounds

- We are coming up on 8 weeks of being down an employee and are doing our best to just keep up.
- Unfortunately we have not been able to do our normal aeration topdressing and overseeding that leads up to our fall league play.
- The cross country invitational forced us back into the trails for some maintenance, pruning and cleanup all is ready for the big weekend.

## Director's Items

Since our meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>, I reviewed the salary level for the Park Maintenance 1 position and based on comparable jobs with other local agencies, increased the grade for that position to level 6 as discussed at the meeting. Then posted the job with salary and benefits information highlighted and have received 10 additional applications to date. Plans are to interview next week.

Had a post-grant review meeting with the RCO WWRP-Local Parks Committee and reviewed the overall process and the preliminary ranked list. More information on that in the regular agenda, but I received compliments from the staff at RCO and other committee members on the improvements to our presentations and projects as well as the actual presentation as done by Commissioners Helpenstell and Hunter. We are encouraged by the committee to continue to improve our projects (if not funded this cycle) and bring them back in future cycles. Finally, I am in the preliminary stages of conversations with the South Whidbey Parks and Aquatics Foundation on a possible restructuring and investigating legalities on District involvement in the foundation. Looking to improve the Foundation operation going forward and expand the vision. More on this as progress occurs.

## **Upcoming Events**

- 15-Sept SWHS Cross Country Meet
- 19-Sept SWPRD Regular Board Meeting-6pm
- 22-Sept Children's Day
- 1-Oct Whidbey Adventure Swim Meeting-6pm
- 17-Oct SWPRD Budget Workshop-6pm
- 17-Oct SWPRD Regular Board Meeting-6:30pm