

## **AQUATICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 10/19**

In Attendance: Gary Miller, Maria Lawrence, Steve Ransdell, Vivian Koroknay, Board Liaison, Frank Daily; Aquatics Director, Kathleen Cook; OP GM, John Viola; Senior Executive Office Manager, Linda Martin

Gary Introduced new committee member Steve Ransdell, and prospective new member Vivian Koroknay

Approved September Minutes

Approved Oct. Agenda

### **Lifeguard Shortage Discussion**

Maria had a discussion with the head of Stephen Decatur Swim Team who said that he would advise students to take the Life Guard Classes being offered by the OP Aquatics Dept. Kathleen mentioned that she has been in contact with all of the local schools to advise them of the classes. Kathleen informed the Committee that the Life Guard classes will be offered free of charge and that she and the GM are considering a number of options to bring in more guards and keep them here all season. The upcoming classes will have enough trainers for 50 participants.

### **Committee Suggestions to the OP BOD**

John Viola, Linda Martin, and Kathleen Cook attended the meeting specifically to discuss the suggestions the Committee has submitted to the BOD.

Pool Membership Option of adding “couple” as an additional membership category was discussed. Both the GM and Kathleen said they would look into this idea with the thought that the new “couple” category might stay at the current “Family” rate and that the new “Family” rate would increase by some amount.

Safety issue with kids playing on the steps at Swim & Racket was discussed. The idea of adding a second set of stairs does not seem feasible because it would take away some swimming space. Kathleen feels that a better solution is just to have the guards enforce the rule that kids cant play on the stairs.

Safety issue with kids playing on the steps at Mumford’s Landing was discussed with the same solution being to have the guards enforce the rule against kids playing on them.

The difficulty in using the Mumford’s Landing pool “ladders” was discussed. The problem for many senior swimmers using the ladders is that although the

handrail is similar to regular pool ladders, the steps are built into the pool wall which requires more upper body strength to use. Kathleen is looking into having regular ladders installed to address this issue

Allowing pool members to enter the facility before nonmembers was discussed. Kathleen reminded everyone that the pools open early for members and that at the appropriate time for nonmembers to enter, an announcement is made asking for any members to come to the front of the line to enter first. Further discussion about members waiting in line behind nonmembers later in the day revealed a number of possible problems and solutions. Kathleen and the GM are going to discuss this in more detail.

Afternoon Class at Sports Core Pool. Kathleen will add an afternoon class once the Committee determines the type of class that should be offered. There will be a minimum number of participants required to register for the class, just as with all other classes, before it will go forward.

Adult Only Fun Night at YC pool. The GM liked this idea but will have to pass it by the OP attorney to determine how to avoid any legal issues that may arise by denying kids entry

### **Additional Discussion on a possible Pre-Season Tour of the Pools and other Recreational Amenities.**

The Committee's idea is to offer the residents of Ocean Pines an opportunity to tour the many recreational facilities available in our community, including the pools, golf course, racket sports, rec & parks and the marina. This would give residents more information on what is available as well as an opportunity to actually see the facilities. A couple concerns were raised, including the manpower needed by each department to staff the event, the need for a lifeguard at each pool being toured, timing of the event, and others. One thought was to have a virtual tour by way of a video that could be shown at a future Town Hall meeting. Another idea would be to have all of the amenities showcased in a convention like setting where residents could walk around and stop at individual kiosks to gather information, ask questions, and see photos or videos of the facilities. It was suggested that the Committee contact the other recreational advisory committees to discuss the idea and develop a possible plan to present to the BOD and GM.

Respectfully submitted by Gary Miller on 11/7/22

**Next Meeting November 16th, 3pm**