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MINUTES

Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Long Range Planning (Formerly MCIP) Workshop
Fidalgo Pool and Fitness Center
Saturday, April 16, 2016, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
The Public was invited.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Committee Members Present: Commissioner Jeremy McNett, Executive Director Marilyn Stadler, Maintenance Manager John Little, Sandy Hatfield, Aquatic & Fitness Manager Carla Bigelow, Keith Rubin, Dr. Mick Donahue

Public: Commissioner Andrew Olson, Jennifer Lewis, Tom Conroy, Gay Woods, Jim & Lenore Robb

SURVEY RESULTS

Executive Director Marilyn Stadler explained the survey process and the results. The survey was conducted in the 31 day period from Monday, February 8, 2016 to Wednesday, March 9, 2016. Seven hundred and fifteen individuals responded. The major concerns of responders include updating current systems such as Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning unit, making the facility American with Disabilities Act compliant, renovating the locker rooms, adding warmer pools, and having family/privacy changing rooms.

There is a table in the lobby that displays the entire survey results, including the comments section of the survey; clarifications on some comment misinformation; information on what tax payers fund in the levy, how the fitness center bond/loan is paid by user fees and not by tax dollars, the success of the current use of the facility over the last several years, how Fidalgo Pool impacts local businesses, who uses the pool, and visits in program categories per year.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

- Gay Woods indicated that warmer pools are needed. She also stated that some of the pool patrons, who weren't present at the workshop, are concerned about the shower heads in the locker rooms, the broken toilet and two sinks in the ladies locker room and the exterior siding of the building.
 - John Little, Maintenance Manager is planning to change all the shower heads and the replace the toilet. Those items have been received and are being prepared for installation. The two sinks are a bigger problem than just replacing them. The wall and the plumbing behind the sinks will need to be addressed, a more complicated and costly issue.

- Commissioner McNett explained to match the exterior siding of the main building with the fitness center siding would cost more than \$180,000. Repair and painting of the building would also be more than what our current special project budget can handle. The Levy & Maintenance Committee and the Commissioners are investigating the best way to handle the exterior updates.
- Tom Conroy stated that the pool is rented out to people other than Fidalgo Island residents, including Burlington Edison and Sedro-Woolley School Districts. It was explained that these school district rent the facility after closure hours. They don't have any other facility available to them. His other concerns included being opened more hours during the weekend, rent the pool less for parties, parking, and increase time for open and lap swimming. He commented that tax payer money should not have been used to build the fitness center. It was stressed that the fitness center bond/loan is paid by user fees & rental income and not by tax dollars.
- Jennifer Lewis stated that survey takers were split evenly in the different age ranges and some age ranges may have not considered the needs of the other patrons. For instance, a senior citizen without children may see no need for the slide replacement, but young parents are probably more inclined to support it.
- It was discussed that a large percentage of surveyors would like to see more children and teen activities. If the survey question about the water slide had followed the children and teen activity one, it may have had a different response level.
- A concern was voiced that parents would do their best to answer on their families behalf, but they may not be aware of what their children and teens would like to have here.
- It was asked that the neutral answers be taken out of the result analysis and that just Extremely and Very Important responses be compared to Less Important to Not at all important ones.
- Some thought that the temperature of the current pool is an issue since seniors and children don't tolerate cooler temperatures well when the competitive teams and swimmers need cooler temperatures to prevent overheating.
- Family/privacy changing rooms seem to be used more in the evening hours.
- Lenore Robb stated that more privacy is needed in the locker room areas for dressing. The family/privacy rooms may help some, but additional measures in the locker room are also a necessity.
- The pie chart results on the conference room walls should be positioned from highest Extremely and Very Important percentage to the least Extremely and Very Important percentage.

FACILITY TOUR

- Maintenance Manager John Little & Aquatic & Fitness Manager Carla Bigelow toured the participants around the facility.

POOL PASSES FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

- After participants toured and made comments, they were given a family pool pass to use the facility on us within two weeks of the workshop. It was explained that the committee would like to gain further information on what the facility needs by their first hand use.

ADJOURN

The workshop of the Pool's Long Range Planning Committee was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. The second workshop is scheduled for Thursday, May 12, 5 – 7 pm