



1603 22nd Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-0673 (phone)

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Conducted at Fidalgo Pool and Fitness Center
March 21, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.
Commissioners Present: C Mathes (Chair), K Hansen, D Way
Commissioners Absent: J McNett, A Olson
Staff Present: R Peterson

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the regular meeting on Feb 15, 2024 were approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vouchers were approved for payment.

DIRECTOR/FINANCIAL/STAFF REPORTS

The ED reported 7,433 visits in February, a 15% increase from January. This was in line with February of 2023. There was a 25% increase in pool usage and a 12% increase in fitness classes from January.

Gross profit for February was higher than budgeted. Part of that was due to receiving some of our levy dues early. Private instruction revenue was lower than expected as there is still a limited number of personal fitness instructors. There are also some accounts receivables that are outstanding.

Expenses were lower than budgeted as expected. This was partly the result of the election costs being budgeted for February but paid in January. Payroll was also lower than expected which reflects not paying private instructors and changing health insurance providers. For the month there was a net loss of \$29,947 compared to a budgeted loss of \$59,023, a positive difference of \$29,076.

At the end of February, there was \$382,173 with the county and \$134,366 in the bank for a total of \$516,539.

The next swimming lesson session will have registration March 30 and begin classes April 8th.

During the first week of lessons, FPFC will be partnering with Washington State Parks and Recreation to hand out free life jackets. The lesson will begin with a discussion on water safety and then the children will be fit for lifejackets. There are 150 life jackets available, anyone who isn't in swimming lessons will be able to come on Wednesday or Thursday to receive the lesson on water safety and receive a life jacket.

There will be another swim lesson event on June 20th where FPFC will participate in the world's largest swim lesson. The ED will update as the date gets closer.

Special Olympics will be using the pool from 6:30-7:30 on Wednesdays until middle of May.

March 27th the facility will shut down at 2:15 for two hours for an all-staff training session. The first portion will be an opportunity for the ED and managers to get in front of staff and talk procedures and safety as well as inform all staff on the Metropolitan Park District and capital program. The second half will consist of emergency drills to ensure all staff know how to react and how to pass information to other sections of the building to gather more aid and awareness.

A sensory swim session will be added for an hour on Sundays beginning in April. This will be for specialty needs kids where the lights will be dimmed, and noise will be kept to a minimum. The desire is to open the pool to a community group that otherwise wouldn't be able to use the pool.

FPFC was voted into the top 3 for Best of Anacortes fitness facilities. With that came an opportunity to place an advertisement in that edition of the paper. A half-page ad was chosen which will include a write-up about the facility as well as a picture of some of the staff.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Pool Safety Update
 - Highlights for the aquatics conference in Colorado attended by J Claridge included drowning risks and the challenges to lifeguarding. There was an overview of the changed lifeguarding curriculum; it focuses more on skills and less classwork. (The plan for FPFC is for our lifeguards to be updated by May 31 to the new standards.) Discussed hypoxic blackout and unintentional blindness. The biggest takeaway she took from this conference is FPFC is not training nearly often enough or the right way. J Claridge conducted a pool zone reassessment with the Head Guards and adjusted lifeguard placement. Looking to change the narrative, lifeguards are not just teenagers babysitting but are considered first responders who deserve respect.
- Low Income Program
 - Upon request from the commissioners, the ED brought an initial proposal for creating a program to aid low-income members of the community in using the facility. The ED will take the suggestions and bring an update to the next meeting.
- Metropolitan Park District.
 - The Boundary Review Board has met and has begun placing notices in the newspapers for three weeks. They will meet again next month to hear if there is anyone with standing that requests the board invoke jurisdiction. The 45-day clock began March 7th and will end April 22nd.

- Capital Campaign
 - The Capital Committee met and looked at the way forward. The first step is to ask to rezone the current land area to Public Use from R3. The ED will move forward to work with the City. Looking at the time requirements, it is believed that a 2029 opening is the most realistic. This will require a late 2027 start of construction timeline. Fundraising and funding identification will need to be completed by that time to move forward.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.