

BACKGROUND

In June 2017, Parkfairfax held a formal board meeting to address a mandate from the City of Alexandria with regard to pool safety and use. Due to City of Alexandria pool regulations on lifeguard to attendee ratios, pool requirements restricted residents from entering and using the pool during peak times (if over the ratio), as necessary by law. As a result, residents were prevented from using the pools at certain times during the summer. The Board was able to add lifeguards to alleviate the problem and in response to this issue, in August 2017, Parkfairfax re-established the Recreation Committee to assist the Board in facilitating the best use of the pools and recreation facilities. The Board first charged the committee with developing recommendations with regard to the pool concerns in preparation for the 2018 swim season and pool contract negotiations.

*There had been a committee previously, but it had been disbanded.

The Recreation Committee currently consists of four members—Nick Soto (chair), Kate Hochstein, Michelle McQueeney and Stacy Bolich. The committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month beginning in August 2017 and addresses issues regarding recreation facilities at PFF. Over the past six months, the committee has been working on developing recommendations for the following Board priorities.

The priorities given to the committee are:

1. Update the pool sign-in sheets
2. Review the 2017 sign-in logs to determine daily average usage for each pool
3. Define the term “guest”
4. Review the guest policy - specifically, should the current maximum number of guests remain at 8 or decreased?
5. Review policy for charging off-site owners \$100/\$150 to use the pool facilities
6. Review the pool management contract (including hours and days of operation for each pool)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update the pool sign-in sheets

Recommendation: The pool sign-in sheets should be updated to reflect the following information: Card ID #; full address; number of residents; number of guests; and time in/ time out will be recorded. This will minimize the amount of information collected and focus on key data points needed to refine and update future pool record data. The sheet will be dated daily and turned into the office weekly with the compiled summary of numbers for the days and weeks. The committee also recommends taking time in the upcoming months to prototype the recommended sign-in sheet and deliver an example to the board in the coming months.

2. Review the 2017 sign-in logs to determine daily average usage for each pool

Recommendation: The committee took extensive time reviewing the 2017 sign-in logs to determine daily average usage for each pool. In reviewing the 2017 season sign-in sheets, the committee determined that an extra lifeguard is needed for late afternoon hours in addition to weekends and holidays. Based on the 2017 pool data, these times are when the pools are busiest. Adding an additional lifeguard will also meet the City of Alexandria's policy of 1 lifeguard/25 pool attendees. The analysis showed that the peak times were 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Coryell was the pool with the most use.

Hours at the pools are currently similar for all pools, usually from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm. Committee has heard resident suggestions of having one pool, MC, open later and close later to accommodate those who want to access pools after work. We will need to see how varying hours fits in with the pool management company guidelines.

GUEST POLICY RECOMMENDED CHANGES

3. *Define the term "guest"*

Recommendation: A "resident" will be defined as a person who resides in PFF and holds a valid, recent ID. A "guest" will be defined as a person who is an invited guest of a current resident. The resident must indicate the guest to the lifeguard and register that person in the sign-in. A guest may not attend the pool or its boundaries without the resident. There may need to be a provision for babysitters and nannies.

4. *Review the guest policy - specifically, should the current maximum number of guests remain at 8 or decreased?*

Recommendation: The Committee recommends changing the current number of guests from 8 to 6 per household or unit for the 2018 swim season. This change will be reflected in the pool rules.

5. *Review policy for charging off-site owners \$100/\$150 to use the pool facilities*

Recommendation: The number of offsite owners purchasing a pool pass seems to be between 12 to 15 owners. Given this, this is not currently viewed as a problem, but should be monitored by the Board, management and the Recreation Committee. No change is recommended at this time.

6. *Review the pool management contract (including hours and days of operation for each pool)*

After reviewing the recommendations from the Board, the final review of the pool contract by the Recreation Committee will take place.

QUESTIONS FOR THE BOARD

- Records management—Committee wishes to know what is done with records during the swim season. Is there a way to consolidate records of usage during the season so they can be studied through the swim season? Can these be tabulated and archived electronically?

- How are ID cards managed? Committee has heard resident comments regarding use of ID cards after the resident/owner no longer is attached to PFF. There is also a question of residents loaning PFF ID to others who don't live/own here. Committee recommends that an electronic ID swipe system such as at the recycling yard be considered for the pools.