

2/14/2024 | 6:30 PM

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES CENTER, LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM
3600 TREMONT ROAD**

If you are joining through Zoom, please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87383605075?pwd=UCtWVE9Pcm02R2tMRC94a3E2ZE1udz09>

Meeting ID: 873 8360 5075

Passcode: 562065

Join by Phone: 877-853-5257

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approve December 13, 2023 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
3. **Old Business**
 - a. Bob Crane Community Center Update
4. **New Business**
 - a. Election of Officers
 - b. Capital Improvements Program
 - c. 2024 Cultural Arts Events
5. **Updates & Reports**
 - a. Director's Report
6. **Board Member Comments and Setting Future Agenda Items**
7. **Adjournment**



Wednesday, December 13, 2023
6:30 pm
Lower Level Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Christ at 6:35 pm.

Members Present:

X Sean Caine
X Lindsey Christ
X Mary Duchi
X Brian Noble

X Caroline O'Donnell
X Craig Smith
X Allison Thomas

Staff Present:

X Parks & Recreation Director Debbie McLaughlin
X Administrative Assistant Brooke Bowman

Other Staff Present: Recreation Superintendent Matt Leber, Parks and Forestry Superintendent Sam Simmons, Recreation Manager Patrick Monaghan

Guests Present: None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board from the October 25, 2023 meeting.

Motioned: Noble

Seconded: Caine

Board Discussion: None

Voting Aye: Caine, Christ, Duchi, Noble, O'Donnell, Smith, Thomas

Abstain: None

Motion Passed

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- OLD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM- Bob Crane Community Center Update

Director McLaughlin gave a brief update on the Bob Crane Community Center and reviewed the focus groups stating the deadline to apply is through the end of January. Staff have also toured regional facilities, are developing a timeline for administrative functions and the new positions needed within the Community Center. The 4th floor of concrete was poured and placed and will be wrapping up this week. Next the 5th floor concrete placement will take place. (Attached hereto and incorporated in as exhibit A).

In response to Board Member Christs invitation to speak, the following speakers came forward:

- Todd Jaquith spoke and provided comments he has heard from residents regarding the community center.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM- Naturalized Areas Update

Parks and Forestry Superintendent Sam Simmons proceeded with a presentation regarding Naturalized Areas. The natural areas include woodlands, prairies, pollinator habitat and wetlands. Benefits of naturalized areas include, beauty of natural habitats, beneficial insects, wildlife, reduction in maintenance energies and enhancement of ecological diversity. Naturalized areas are used to mitigate the effects of urban disturbance. The Friends of UA Parks dedicate a Saturday of every month to help in the parks with invasive species removal and plantings. (Attached hereto and incorporated in as exhibit A).

AGENDA ITEM- Recreation Program and Events Recap

Recreation Manager Patrick Monaghan continued with the presentation providing a recap on recreation program and events in 2023 through the end of November. In 2023 there were 1,579 programs offered with an 84.93% implementation rate and a total of 18,333 participants. The presentation provided program highlights including pictures from certain programs from youth through older adult as well as pictures from the seasonal events including Spring Fling, Fall Fest and the modified Winter Festival held at the Municipal Services Center. Gearing up for the Community Center programmers started collaborating with The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center offering programs together. The Senior day trips this year have received excellent feedback and the 15-passenger van has helped those trips be successful. (Attached hereto and incorporated in as exhibit A).

A board member asked about Littleton's market opening and the farmers market still being held there. Mr. Leber responded the Farmers Market manager and Littleton's are in discussion and will have an update by January.

AGENDA ITEM- 2024 Glow Event

Recreation Superintendent Matt Leber proceeded with the presentation introducing a new event idea for 2024. Reimagined idea for Summer celebration is Glow in the Park to be held in August and in Thompson Park. The Department would like to know the Board members thoughts and ideas pertaining to the Glow in the Park idea and opened it up to comments:

- White cotton t-shirts with black lights
- Timing to midnight seems too late for pre-teens
- Start with it light out and as it gets darker things start glowing
- Cautious of teens being dropped off without parents

AGENDA ITEM- Directors Report

Director McLaughlin gave updates on the following items:

- Instruction of swim lessons will be through City staff for 2024
- Play UA reduction fee being increased to 75% for swim lessons because of it being a lifesaving program
- Thompson Park playground received preliminary feedback in October from the survey on likes and dislikes for playground features
- Civic clerk software password resent links can be resent

AGENDA ITEM- Board Member Comments and Setting Future Agenda Items

- Appointments for Officers
- Department Capital Improvement Program
- 2024 Events schedule

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned: Smith

Seconded: O'Donnell

Voting Aye: Caine, Christ, Duchi, Noble, O'Donnell, Smith, Thomas

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2023

Abstain: None
Motion Passed

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm

ATTEST: _____
Secretary

Chairperson

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

12/13/2023



Recreation Program Recap 2023



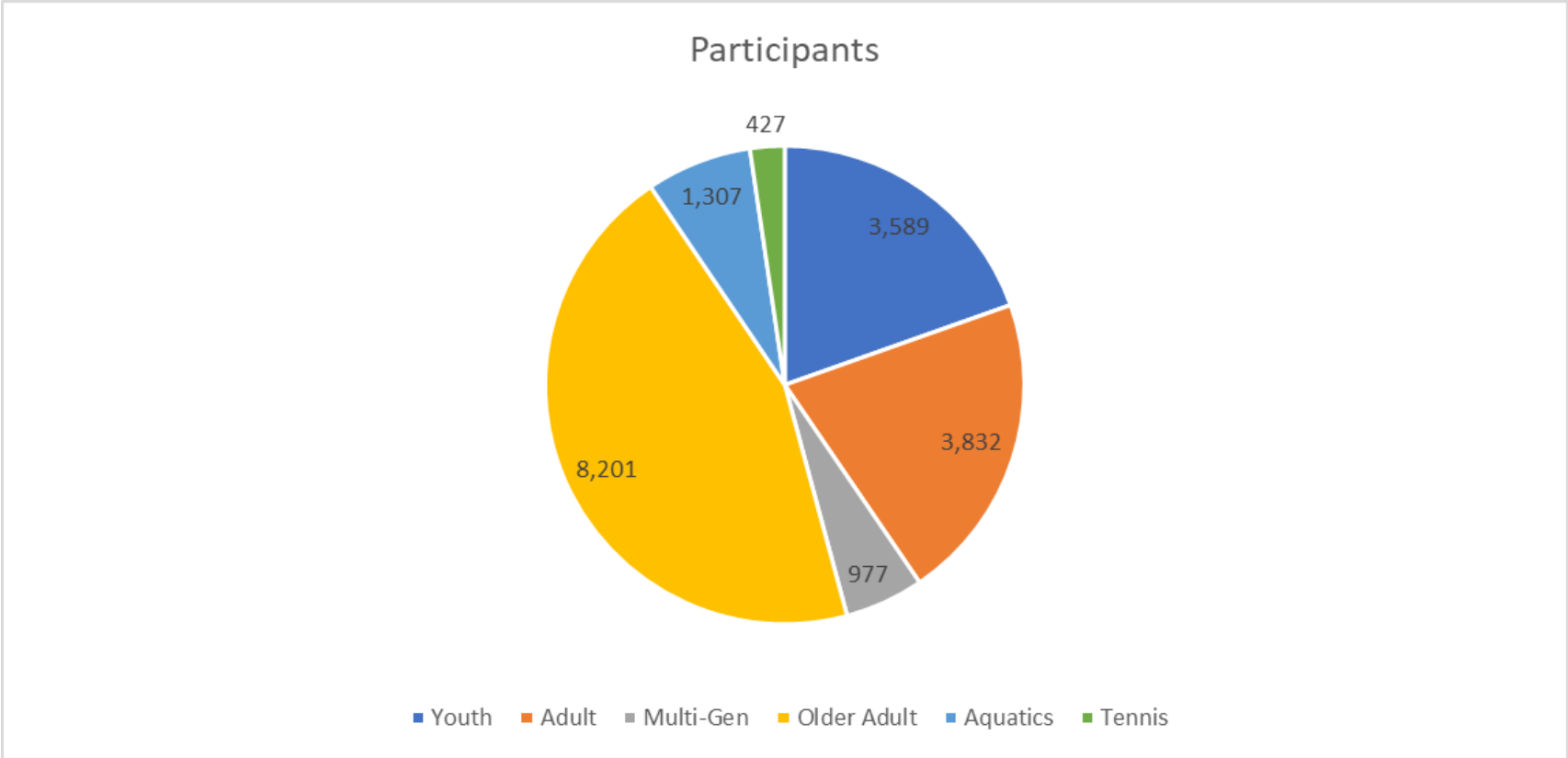
Programs Offered and Implementation Rate

Category	Active	Cancelled	Total Offered	Implementation Rate
Youth	287	67	354	81.07%
Adult	278	89	367	75.75%
Multi-Gen	70	14	84	83.33%
Older Adult	497	68	565	87.96%
Aquatics	181	0	181	100.00%
Tennis	28	0	28	100.00%
Total	1,341	238	1,579	84.93%



2023 Program Participants

Category	Participants
Youth	3,589
Adult	3,832
Multi-Gen	977
Older Adult	8,201
Aquatics	1,307
Tennis	427
Total	18,333



Residents: 13,967 76%
 Non Residents: 4,366 24%

*Data as of 12/7/23

Program Highlights

- Summer Day Camp
 - 329 Participants
 - 30 Staff Members



- Seasonal Events
- Spring Fling
- Farmers Market
- Family Camp Out: 16 Families



Program Highlights



- Senior Center attendance highest since pre-COVID19
- Senior Day trips conducted by Rec Staff receiving excellent feedback from attendees.
- 15 passenger bus has been an excellent addition to our programming operations. (TR Fun Club trips, Senior Day trips, Senior Grub Clubs, etc.)
- Most Popular: Pickleball, Older Adult Fitness Classes, Youth Sports Camps and Programs



Events

- Senior Center attendance highest since pre-COVID19
- Senior Day trips conducted by Rec Staff receiving excellent feedback from attendees.
- 15 passenger bus has been an excellent addition to our programming operations. (TR Fun Club trips, Senior Day trips, Senior Grub Clubs, etc.)
- Most Popular: Pickleball, Older Adult Fitness Classes, Youth Sports Camps and Programs



Natural Areas Management Update



Naturalized Area Management:

Why?

- Woodlands, prairies/pollinator habitat, and wetlands



Naturalized Area Management:

How?



Upcoming Events

Our 2023 and 2024 schedule is set! We have tools and work gloves. Please wear long pants and closed toe shoes for safety.

Unless otherwise noted, all events are 9:00-12:00.

Date: December 9, 2023
Where: Thompson Park (meet in Mountview Road parking lot)

Date: January 20, 2024
Where: Fancyburg Park (meet on south side)

Date: February 10, 2024
Where: Smith Nature Park

Date: March 16, 2024
Where: Miller Park

Date: April 20, 2024 (tentative)
Where: Northwest Kiwanis Park

Date: May 18, 2024
Where: Cardiff Park

Date: June 15, 2024
Where: Fancyburg Park (meet on south side)

Date: August 24, 2024 (tentative)
Where: Cardiff Park

Date: September 21, 2024
Where: Miller Park

Date: October 12, 2024
Where: Thompson Park (meet in Mountview Road parking lot)

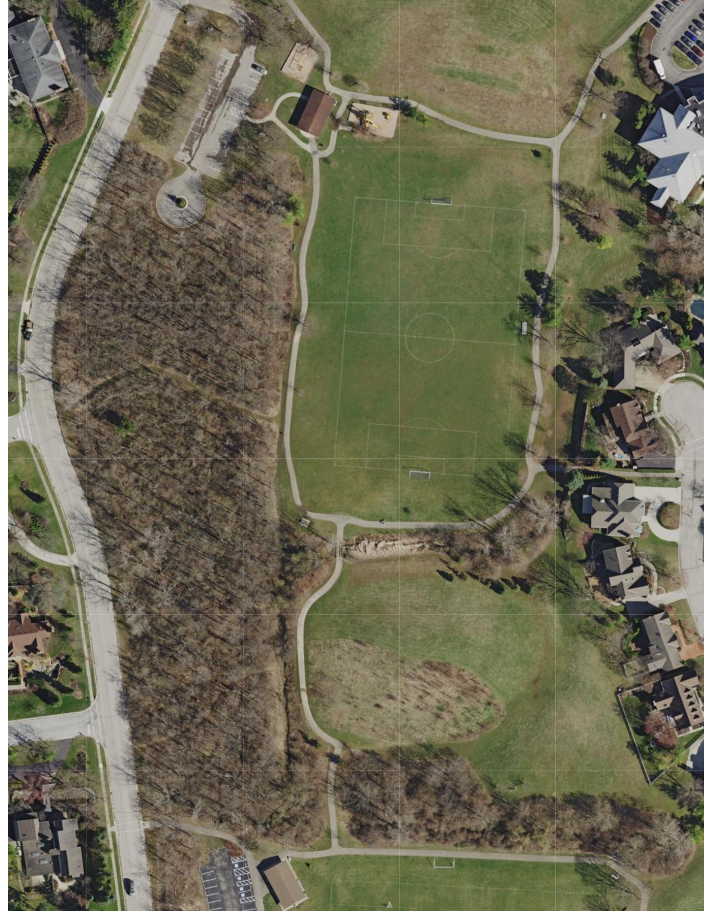
Date: November 9, 2024
Where: Northwest Kiwanis Park

Date: December 7, 2024
Where: Fancyburg Park (meet on south side)

Please check out our FaceBook page for more announcements. There is a separate email list; you can ask to be added at one of our work events.



Naturalized Area:





Natural Areas



Natural Areas: on the horizon

Northwest Kiwanis Park Tree Removal and Vegetation Clearing

-  Area of work approximately 1.5 acres
-  Area within work zone close to storm water ditch

