



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: November 18, 2020
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Director's Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of various Parks and Recreation Department (Department) initiatives and activities.

DISCUSSION:

AllSeated

During summer, the Department contracted with AllSeated to provide an online floor plan system for all rental facilities. AllSeated provides clients the ability to design and scale floorplans, organize and manage seating charts, keep track of RSVP's and guest lists, and coordinate details with vendors such as caterers, florists, and event planners. This online layout tool is standard in the event industry and provides 2D and 3D views of floor plans along with a variety of reports to efficiently manage events. A social distancing feature was recently added that identifies chairs that are too close to meet safety protocols. Clients can find Department facilities when using the system on their own or staff can assist with a template they can modify to meet their specific event needs. The Department is looking forward to implementing this customer friendly feature to assist future and returning rental clients with facility reservations and bookings once Health Officer Orders allow.

Trunk or Treat

With Santa Barbara County Public Health Department guidance, on Friday, October 30, the Santa Barbara Police Activities League (SBPAL), in partnership with the Department, hosted their first ever Halloween "Trunk or Treat" event from 5:00-8:00 pm in the Spencer Adams Parking Lot. The event was a great success, with 23 vendors who creatively decorated the trunk of their vehicles and distributed candy to approximately 250 costumed ghouls & goblins. Strict hygiene and safety protocols were implemented, including the requirement for all participants, volunteers, staff, and vendors to be socially distanced, distribute candy with the appropriate handling precautions, and wear masks for the full

duration of the outdoor event. The Department would like to recognize the following staff – Sarah Knowles, Michelle McDonnell, Ricardo Venegas – and members of the Youth Council who assisted SBPAL with event planning, logistics, and set-up and take down on the day of the event.

Fall Youth Camps

Throughout the pandemic, the Recreation Division has embraced creativity for the delivery of safe camps and recreation programs. The extension of summer camp programming into the fall ended in the middle of October, but staff were still being asked to identify camps and programs that would provide parents with opportunities for afterschool or weekend activities to supplement the current on-line academic school year implemented by Santa Barbara Unified School District. The Youth Activities Section researched different scheduling options offered by different governmental, private, and non-profit youth serving agencies and settled on two camp offerings that would help fulfil the requested need.

Saturday Skate Camp

On October 31, the Department started the Saturday Skate Camp at Skaters Point, which will operate through December 12. This six week program is designed for children ages 6 to 11 years who receive personalized instruction and restricted access to Skaters Point. Under the watchful eye of the skate staff, the 14 camp participants are learning proper skateboarding technique, improving their skills, and having fun exploring the challenges of Skater's Point.

LEGO Camp

The Department is currently offering two afternoon six-week LEGO Camps designed for children ages 5 to 10 years, with a total of 19 registered. The camps meet once per week between 2:30-5:30 pm, and participants learn introductory engineering and real-world concepts, while incorporating creative themes such as “Jedi Engineering” and “STEM FUNdamentals.” Participants are given their own supplies and are able to work and build in a private workspace. The LEGO Instructor provides personal instruction and guides each Camp through a new curriculum each session.

Family members of camp participants have expressed their gratitude for the ability to have their children take part in an active and fun camps. Additionally, the families recognize the Department has given their children a safe environment where they may engage and interact with other youth from the community.

PREPARED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director