

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

STAFF REPORT

Subject: Parks and Recreation Department Monthly Report

Meeting Date: April 2, 2024

Written by: Stuart Brown, Parks and Recreation Director
Warren Boling, Parks Manager
Katrina Kelly, Recreation Manager
Douglas Gebhart, Recreation Supervisor
Mark Bell, Adult Programming and Facility Operations Supervisor
Andrew McEachron, Community Recreation Center Supervisor
Sydney Schulz, Program and Facilities Administrator

BACKGROUND:

The monthly Parks and Recreation Department Report includes news and updates from the department, along with achievements and action related to the strategies, goals and tasks identified in the Parks and Recreation Department 2024 Strategic Priorities and Key Objectives.

1. Maintain and Enhance the Town's Recreation Infrastructure
2. Deliver High-Quality, Innovative and Affordable Recreation Programming
3. Strengthen Organizational Systems, Structures and Operations
4. Build Capacity, Teamwork and Recruit & Retain the Best

DEPARTMENT NEWS AND UPDATES

Facility Status:

Community Center

- OPEN for programming and private rentals.

Community Tennis Courts and Playground

- Tennis Courts – CLOSED
- Pickleball Courts – CLOSED
- Restrooms – CLOSED
- Playground – CLOSED

LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes

- OPEN for the season
- April 21 – last day of winter operations

Mammoth RecZone

- May 18 - scheduled opening day

Mammoth Lakes Pickleball Complex

- Pickleball Courts – CLOSED
- Scheduled opening in mid-April
- Restrooms – CLOSED

Mammoth Creek Park - West

- Playground – CLOSED
- Restrooms – CLOSED

Mammoth Creek Park – East

- Restrooms – CLOSED

Shady Rest Park

- Ball Fields 1-3 – CLOSED
- Soccer Fields 1-2 – CLOSED
- Restrooms – CLOSED. Portable restrooms available.
- Playground – CLOSED
- Ball Field Restrooms – CLOSED. Portable restrooms available.
- Shady Rest DiscGolfPark® - CLOSED
- Shady Rest Volleyball Courts – CLOSED

Trails End Park/Volcom Brothers Skate Park

- Skateparks – CLOSED
- Restrooms – OPEN (weather dependent)
- Playground – CLOSED

Town-wide MUPs and Sidewalks

- Please refer to the Parks and Recreation website (Parks & Facilities Status for up-to-date information.

Whitmore Pool

- May 6 - scheduled to open for lap swim and swim team practice.
- June 15 - Opens for public swim!

Whitmore Recreation Area

- Whitmore Ball Fields 1-3 – OPEN
- Whitmore Track – OPEN
- Whitmore Synthetic Turf – OPEN
- Restrooms – CLOSED. Portable restrooms available. There is currently no access to water at this location.

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE TOWN'S RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Open and Operate the Community Recreation Center (CRC)

Community Recreation Center (CRC) – PR 1 & PR 2

(1) LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes

- See presentation.

(2) Mammoth RecZone

- SportCourt PowerGame+ install scheduled for May 2024
- Public opening – May 18, 2024

Lead and/or support efforts to provide multi-purpose, year-round, indoor, and outdoor recreation amenities in Mammoth Lakes.

(1) Mammoth Lakes Community Dog Park - PR 7

- Town Council awarded the bid to DG Construction. Work commenced in late September, with a 6-8 week completion schedule (weather dependent).
- Utilities and storm drains have been installed and rough grading completed.
- Contractors will resume work in the Spring (weather dependent), with the installation of fencing, gates, 5,000 sf of dog turf, prefabricated restroom, benches, dog waste leash posts and trash.
- Construction has been placed on winter suspension – estimated completion, Spring 2024.

(2) Park at the Parcel – PR 12

- Playground equipment and fencing has been installed at the 2-5 childcare site.
- The larger 5-12 year old playground, restroom and community amenities has been scheduled for installation next spring/summer.

(3) Mammoth Arts and Cultural Center (MACC) – GF 9

- The Mammoth Lakes Foundation is moving forward with a 2-phased plan to renovate Edison Hall, which will then support an addition of a 250-seat theatre that will be connected to Edison Hall. The Edison Hall renovation is the first phase of the project and will commence this fall using private donor funds raised by the Foundation, followed by the second phase which is the construction of the theatre utilizing public funds (Measure C bond and Measure U funds).
- On February 21, Town Council adopted the Resolution approving the form and authorizing execution of certain lease financing documents in connection with the offering and sale of certificates of participation relating thereto to finance the cost of construction and equipping a new town facility and the cost of acquiring certain land and improvements and authorizing and directing certain actions with respect thereto.
- HMC and Town staff are reviewing the final design and cost estimate for the MACC.

(4) Edison Theatre

- The Edison Hall will be closed for renovations this spring/summer and will reopen in the fall. The existing Edison Theatre will be replaced with a smaller, black box rehearsal/theatre space to create enough room for support facilities for the new, larger theatre.

(5) Bike Park/Pump Track Concept – PR 9

- The bike park concept/pump track is identified in the Town of Mammoth Lakes 2022/23 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- Staff continue to explore potential sites for the facility.
- Funding is not secured for this project.

(6) Mammoth Lakes Bouldering Park – PR 10

- The Bouldering Park is a complementary amenity to the Bike Park/Pump Track concept and to the CRC and recreation destination concept.
- Staff will determine if this feature can be incorporated into the Mammoth Creek Park West rehabilitation.
- Funding is not secured for this project.

(7) Mammoth Creek Park West Play Area.

- Redevelopment of open play area adjacent to the inclusive playground.
- Staff will draft site plans and present to the Commission for review/input.
- Formal plans will be developed with a cost estimate and timing for implementation.
- Town Council allocated \$500,000 to rehabilitate the play area.

Enhance recreation infrastructure to improve user safety, improve operations, and overall guest experience:

(1) Maintenance Best and NEXT practices

- No updates

(2) Deferred Maintenance Program

Since 2017, the Town has invested over \$1million in deferred maintenance projects at parks and recreation fields, facilities, trails, and pools.

- Town staff received funding to repair the old ice rink concession and garage building.

(3) Amenities Enhancement Program

- No updates.

DELIVER HIGH-QUALITY, INNOVATIVE, AND AFFORDABLE RECREATION PROGRAMMING

Create and deliver scalable, sustainable and DEI Core Community Programs aligned with the resource capacity and capabilities of the Department.

- Staff are reviewing registration platforms, forms, and waivers to ensure inclusive language is used.
- Applications for the 2024 Tony Colasardo Scholarship Fund are now OPEN.

Core Program Areas

- **Youth/Teen Camps and Programs**

- *Youth After-School Programs*

- Gymnastics, Cooking Class, and Skating lessons are ongoing.
 - Parent and Me Gymnastics classes began in early March. Led by our new Pre-School Programs Instructor, Coach Jacqui, these sessions are designed for parents and toddlers (18 months – 4 years) as a social and introductory motor skills program.
 - The First Goal Program will commence at *LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes* on April 2. This four (4) session program is designed as a FREE introduction to skating and hockey for 5-8 year olds. Participants will learn the basic fundamentals of skating and hockey and will be provided with a full-set of hockey gear for the duration of the program (\$50 cash deposit required for hockey gear). Sessions will take place on Tuesdays (April 2 & 9) and Thursdays (April 4 & 11) from 5pm-6pm at LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes.
 - Spring Bike Squad, Spring Gymnastics, and Little Wreckers will commence late April.
 - For more information on any of these programs, please visit www.MammothParksAndRec.com. Scholarships are available for all recreation programs at www.TonyColasardoScholarshipFund.com

- **Adult Programs**

- Adult Indoor Soccer concluded earlier than anticipated on March 31 due to renovations at the Mammoth High School Gym.
 - Adult Indoor Volleyball, Adult Hockey, and Adult Curling Leagues have finished their regular seasons and commenced playoff rounds.
 - 4-week Intro to Women's Hockey clinic, Women's Pickup Hockey, and Skating lessons are ongoing.
 - Women's Pickup Hockey commenced on March 6.
 - Skating Drill and Fitness, led by Sydney Schulz, took place on Wednesdays during March.

- **Facility Operations/Maintenance**

- On-going identification and replacement of damaged items.

- **Community Events**

- **March 29** - Spring Egg Hunt at *LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes* and along the Multi-Use Paths
 - **April 1** - Summer Recreation Expo and In-Person Summer Registration at *LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes*
 - **April 8** – Open registration for all camps and programs!
 - **Upcoming Events:**
 - April: Community Skate Month (LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes)
 - April 11: Women's Exhibition Hockey Game (LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes)

- April 12-14: Adult Invitational Hockey Tournament (*LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes*)
- April 18-21: California Curling Championships (*LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes*)

Provide enhanced recreation programming by partnering with local organizations, fund local non-profit youth sporting groups (YSF), hire skilled instructors, or contract with recreation entities.

- **Youth Sports Organizations**

- Mammoth Lakes Youth Hockey finished their season at *LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes* on March 28. Their end of season party will be held at the rink on April 7.
- AYSO Spring Soccer and Mammoth Futbol Club have begun practices at the Whitmore Recreation Area synthetic field.
- Mono County Little League will commence practices at the Whitmore Recreation Area ball fields in mid-April.
- 2024 Youth Sports Funding award checks have been issued and mailed to organizations.

- **Mammoth Unified School District**

- MHS Softball, Baseball, and Track and Field teams have begun practices and games at the Whitmore Recreation Area ball fields and synthetic track and field.

- **First 5 Peapod Playgroups**

- Weekly playgroups continue to be held at the Community Center on Mondays from 10-11am.

STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES AND OPERATIONS

Realign the Department's organizational structure to further the growth, quality, and efficient delivery of the Core Program Areas.

- The organizational chart for the Recreation Department has been realigned to further the development and success of the core program areas.

Continually improve the delivery of Core Program Areas by constantly measuring performance, utilize a data-driven approach, and implement a NEW community recreation management platform.

(1) Program and Facility Satisfaction Surveys

- Staff have developed a new Program Satisfaction Survey and have initiated the process of distributing the survey to all program participants throughout the year. Staff are now developing a Facility Satisfaction Survey to be distributed to all facility rentals.

(2) DaySmart Recreation

- Staff continue to build facility rentals and point of sale modules.

(3) PlayCore Data Services Lab

- Staff are working with the CORE Data Service Lab on the new *data translation and storytelling platform*.

(4) NEW Parks and Recreation Department website

- Staff continue to edit and update the newly launched and redesigned Parks and Recreation Department website.
- Staff are working to create internal processes to ensure the website and new functions (Calendar, News and Events) remain updated at all times.

(5) Recreation This Week

- Current users: 3590 (+274) – NOW SENT THROUGH DAYSMART PLATFORM

(6) Social Media

- Mammoth Parks N Rec. Facebook Page – 3,105 followers (+16)
- Mammoth Parks N Rec. Instagram – 1,727 followers (+27)
- Mammoth Lakes Ice Facebook Page – 447 followers (+13)
- LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes Instagram – 839 followers (+21)
- Mammoth Whitmore Pool Facebook Page – 882 followers (+27)

(7) Brochures, flyers, and print ads.

- Staff are working with Mammoth Lakes Creative on the Summer Parks and Facilities brochure.

BUILD CAPACITY, TEAMWORK AND RECRUIT AND RETAIN THE BEST

Build capacity by aligning positions (responsibilities) and desired outcomes with professional, prepared, and passionate people.

(1) Workforce Development

- Staff are developing plans to actively build our workforce through engagement with Mammoth Mountain departments and employees.

(2) Professional Development

- No update.

(3) Customer Service Training

- No update.

Build a high-performing Team by integrating the 5 C's into daily operations to achieve extraordinary results.

(1) Communicate (the what)

- Create shared understanding and awareness by frequent and effective vertical communication - establishes a shared vision, focus, common purpose and enduring connection.
- (2) *Connect (the why)*
- Build genuine relationships and trust by positive interactions, shared experiences and honesty with each other that furthers and reinforces collaboration.
- (3) *Collaboration (the how)*
- The team is better, stronger and more productive together by working together. Seek synergistic relationships, innovation and partnerships in all directions (internally and externally). Think WE before me...
- (4) *Commit (the do)*
- It is each individual's unwavering commitment and accountability to the team that leads to extraordinary results. Goal is to empower team members to act with confidence and with the support of the entire team (empowered execution).
- (5) *Celebrate (All!)*
- Recognition and acknowledgement of an individual's and the team's accomplishments needs to be celebrated!

Strategically Recruit, Retain and Recognize our Employees

(1) Recruitment Plan

- Staff have commenced recruitment for summer seasonal staff. Current job postings include:
 - Site Coordinator – Mammoth RecZone (CRC)
 - Assistant Site Coordinator – Mammoth RecZone (CRC & Summer Camps)
 - Recreation Coordinator – Mammoth RecZone (CRC)
 - Recreation Instructor – Mountain Biking
 - Recreation Instructor – Skateboarding
 - Recreation Leader I – Senior Summer Camp Counselor
 - Recreation Leader II – Summer Camp Counselor
 - Assistant Site Coordinator – Whitmore Pool
 - Facilities Staff – Whitmore Pool (Lifeguard)
 - Recreation Instructor – Swimming
- Staff have developed a summer internship and recruitment plan to be directed at Recreation degree students in California (California State University – Long Beach, California Polytechnic State University – San Luis Obispo) – Recreation Leader I (College Internship). Recruitment is underway and the department has already received a number of applications through this avenue.

(2) Recognition Plan

- Staff are reviewing recognition opportunities for seasonal staff but encourage spontaneous recognition.