



**City of Spokane Park Board
Recreation Committee Meeting**

2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sep. 04, 2024
Hybrid in-person and WebEx teleconference meeting
Jennifer Papich – Recreation Director

Committee members

X Sally Lodato – Chair
X Greta Gilman
X Jennifer Ogden

Parks staff

Jennifer Papich
Ryan Griffith
Alice Busch
Josh Oakes
Kris Behr
Jerry Stacy

City Staff

Megan Kapaun

Guests

Mike Johansen
Owen Esparas

SUMMARY

- The committee passed the following action items which will be presented to the Park Board for consideration and approval:
 - MOU between Spokane Parks and Spokane Pickleball Club – consent agenda item
- Owen Esparas gave a presentation on the Mid City Concerns Senior Center.
- Various members of the Recreation team presented the Recreation Report

The next regularly scheduled Recreation Committee meeting is set for **2:15 p.m.** Wed. Oct. 02, 2024.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 2:43 p.m. by committee chair Sally Lodato.

Public Comments: None

Action items:

1. [MOU between Spokane Parks and Spokane Pickleball Club \(SPC\)](#) – Jennifer Papich
 - a. Jennifer & Mike Johansen, the president of SPC explained that they are a grassroots non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the sport of pickleball in the greater Spokane area. The purpose of the memorandum of understanding is to formally establish an agreement between SPC and Spokane Parks and Recreation (SPRD) defining the shared goal and objectives, the expectations between the two parties, and a written record of accountability.
 - b. Specific points to clarify within the MOU include SPC's payment of special events permits and external fees (such as port-a-pots) during tournaments and large events. However, parks reservation fees will not be charged to SPC for these events. It should also be noted that reservation of sport courts, athletic fields, and picnic shelters is already a service provided to the community through SPRD. The MOU will initially be for two years with the option of extending for an additional three years
 - c. This partnership is in response to the Spokane Parks Master Plan which indicated residents wanted more pickleball facilities in the City. Parks has 35 pickleball courts, with 2 more expected to open soon.
 - d. According to Mike, the SPC came about to bridge the gap with pickleball accessibility, education and tournament offerings. Their fundraising efforts will benefit both SPC and SPRD with improvements and expansion.
 - e. SPRD greatly benefits from this partnership as some of the monies raised by SPC will go to resurfacing, restriping, court upgrades, lighting and new court construction.
 - f. In response to Greta Gilman's question, not all tennis/sport courts within the City are appropriate for pickleball, due to several factors including proximity to houses and there have not been any complaints from neighbors about the noise. There has not been any complaints from tennis players either about transitioning courts to pickleball. Also, to clarify, the court upgrades will be paid directly by SPC out of their funds and will not go through SPRD first. Jennifer Ogden informed Mike of the Citizen Advisory Committee which he may want to join.

Motion #1 – Sally Lodato moved to recommend MOU between Spokane Parks and Spokane Pickleball Club.

Jennifer Ogden seconded. The motion passed unanimously (3-0 vote).

The committee agreed to present this recommendation as a consent agenda item on the September 12 Park Board meeting agenda.

Discussion Items:

1. [Mid City Concerns Presentation](#) – Owen Esparas
 - a. Owen is the executive director of Mid City Concerns (MCC). He explained they have two divisions: the MCC Senior Center and Meals on Wheels of Spokane. He said that 2023 was a great year with 13,659 participants! Between fundraising and grant dollars, they've raised over \$72,500. He indicated the building went through a major overhaul recently and invited the committee to visit. He also said that they are already outgrowing this space and are looking at new facilities. Their board is looking at some very interesting expansion prospects.

- b. He stated they have a unique demographic being situated right downtown. They have many walkers, bus riders, as well as a handful of unhoused individuals, which are already facing scarcity. MCC helps them to feel welcome and accepted. He said that they are some of the best clients they serve because they not only use the center for recreation, but also as a warming/cooling shelter. Again, because of the financial barriers of the general population, MCC has chosen to offer most recreational events at no cost to the participants which promotes their goal of inclusivity. Another goal is education. Many seniors don't even know where to begin when looking for resources. MCC is there to bridge that gap by bringing in representatives from various groups.
- c. The Meals on Wheels component is all prepared in-house with top chefs with over 600 meals per day. They also feed all the program participants. Each month they celebrate "it's your birthday" day with a fun meal. A portion of the funding received from SPRD has gone to many new events, parties and outings for the participants.

Standing Reports

1. Recreation Report – Jennifer Papich

- a. **Summer highlights** include preschool art camps at Manito; summer camps at Corbin Arts Center (with almost \$10,000 more in revenue), and the new Art/Sci (with a focus on art) camps at Finch with 59 participants.
- b. **Aquatics** had a terrific season with 8,791 more open swim participants over 2023. The classes raised over \$26,000 more in revenue from 2023, however the facility rental revenue was fairly even from 2023. Josh Oakes indicated the staff was definitely the highlight of the year with an incredible team of individuals focused on keeping the swimmers safe as well as having lots of summer fun.
- c. **Outdoor** had a busy summer. For the most part, participation was down slightly, however revenue increased by nearly \$1,500. Each summer camp has a maximum of 12 participants and is such a fun program, always a favorite with 252 campers this year.
- d. **Wellness** also saw a jump in net revenue on more than \$18,000 this year however overall participation was down. The new Art/Sci camp (with a focus on science) had 83 participants and raised nearly \$20,000 in revenue.
- e. **Adult Athletics** is growing each year. The Outdoor Volleyball, led by Josh Oakes, had a significant rise in teams and participants over 2023. Summer Adult Softball added a women's division which added nearly 20 teams to the program.
- f. **Therapeutic Recreation (TRS)** had a busy summer. They increased their revenue by \$5,000 and had 72 more participants. TRS partnered with three of the rec programs for some valuable new experiences: the sensory swim program with Aquatics was tremendously rewarding; kayaking with Outdoor Rec was a fun, new adventure for most of the participants; Riverfront Park staff made the day camp so enjoyable.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Recreation Committee meeting is set for **2:15 p.m.** Wed. Oct. 02, 2024.

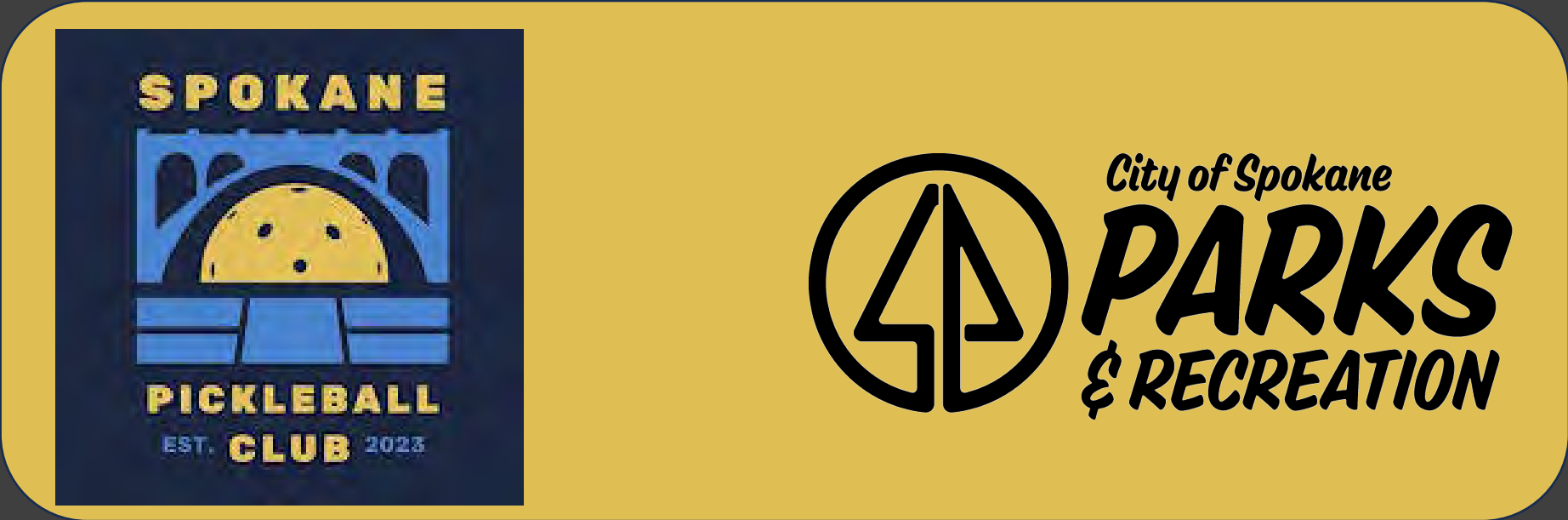
Spokane Park Board

Briefing Paper



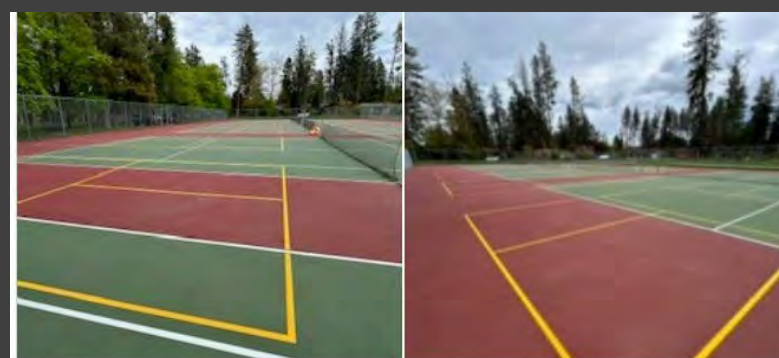
Committee	Recreation Committee	Committee meeting date: Sept. 4, 2024	
Requester	Jennifer Papich	Phone number: 509-363-5420	
Type of agenda item	<input type="radio"/> Consent <input type="radio"/> Discussion <input type="radio"/> Information <input checked="" type="radio"/> Action		
Type of contract/agreement	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renewal/ext. <input type="radio"/> Lease <input type="radio"/> Amendment/change order <input type="radio"/> Other		
City Clerks file (OPR or policy #)			
Master Plan Goal, Objective, Strategy (Click HERE for link to the adopted plan)	Goal B Obj. 1(Improvement)	Master Plan Priority Tier:	Tier 1 (pg. 171-175)
Item title: (Use exact language noted on the agenda)	Memorandum of Understanding between Spokane Parks and Recreation and Spokane Pickleball Club		
Begin/end dates	Begins: 09/18/2024	Ends: 12/31/2026	<input type="checkbox"/> 06/01/2525
Background/history:			
<p>The purpose of this MOU is to establish and define the working relationship between the Spokane Pickleball Club (SPC) and the City of Spokane; Parks and Recreation Division (PARKS), for growing and supporting pickleball throughout the city park system. SPC and PARKS will collaborate on programming, events, and initiatives aimed at fostering interest and participation in pickleball. Spokane Pickleball Club will act as a liaison between the pickleball community. Spokane Pickleball Club was incorporated to promote the sport through education, accessibility, special events, tournaments, and fundraising contributions for improvements and expansions in Spokane.</p>			
Motion wording:			
Accept the zero dollar Memorandum of Understanding between Spokane Parks and Recreation and Spokane Pickleball Club			
Approvals/signatures outside Parks: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If so, who/what department, agency or company: Spokane Pickleball Club			
Name: Michael Johansen Email address: michaelallenjohansen@gmail.com Phone: 650-759-2646			
Distribution:			
Parks – Accounting			
Parks – Sarah Deatrich			
Requester: Jennifer Papich			
Grant Management Department/Name:			
Fiscal impact: <input type="radio"/> Expenditure <input checked="" type="radio"/> Revenue			
Amount:		Budget code:	
\$0		n/a	
Vendor: <input type="radio"/> Existing vendor <input type="radio"/> New vendor			
Supporting documents:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quotes/solicitation (RFP, RFQ, RFB)	<input type="checkbox"/>	W-9 (for new contractors/consultants/vendors)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contractor is on the City's A&E Roster - City of Spokane	<input type="checkbox"/>	ACH Forms (for new contractors/consultants/vendors)
<input type="checkbox"/>	UBI: Business license expiration date:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance Certificate (min. \$1 million in General Liability)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN SPOKANE PARKS AND RECREATION AND SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB





The Spokane Pickleball Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, grassroots organization dedicated to promoting the sport of pickleball.



Spokane Parks and Recreation is at Comstock Park.
May 8 · Spokane · 🌐

Good news for pickleball players: 12 courts have been striped for pickleball at Comstock Park thanks to Spokane Pickleball Club and Spokane Parks Foundation! 🍌🍌🍌



SPC Board

Mike Johansen
Founder Club President

- Sue Matthews –Secretary
- Lisa VanMansum –Treasurer
- Dave Sanderson –Board Member
- Sherran Croy –Board Member
- Susan Humphreys –Board Member
- Craig Numata –Board Member



THE PURPOSE OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- A Memorandum of Understanding is a formal agreement between two or more parties that outlines their intentions and mutual understanding regarding a particular project or collaboration.
 - It clarifies and specifies what each party is expected to do to prevent misunderstandings and conflicts.
 - It defines shared goals and objectives for a clear roadmap moving forward.
 - It establishes how the parties will work together including: Communication, decision-making, and conflict resolution.
 - It is a reference and written record for accountability and consistency.
-

CLARIFYING POINTS OF MENTION

- Reserving sports courts along with other park athletic fields and picnic shelters is already an established service that Parks provides to the community.
- The responsibilities listed under **Section 7 Park Responsibilities** are already services and responsibilities provided by the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department.
- Reservation fees will not be charged as part of this agreement – unless they are above and beyond regular rental fees (Spokane Pickleball Club will pay for any special event permits or additional event expenses)

SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB & SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Spokane Parks Master Plan indicated that Spokane was providing a lower-than-average level of service for Pickleball at that time. It listed renovating and adding sport courts as a first-tier community priority to meet the unmet demand.

CURRENT PARKS PICKLEBALL COURT INVENTORY

- **Shared use Courts (Tennis and Pickleball)**
 - Comstock 12
 - Mission 16
 - Peaceful Valley 1
 - AM Cannon 2
 - Sky Prairie 2
- ***Dedicated Pickleball Courts:***
 - Corbin Park: 2
 - Underhill: 2 (coming soon)



SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB & SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Spokane Pickleball Club was incorporated to promote the sport through:

- Education
- Accessibility
- Tournaments / Special events
- Fundraising contributions to assist with improvements and expansions of pickleball in Spokane are needed.



According to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), pickleball had approximately 4.8 million players in the U.S. as of 2022, reflecting a rapid increase in recent years, around 14-20% annually.





SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB & SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- SPC strives to connect all pickleball players in the Spokane community, to grow the number of players in the area, and to provide enhanced community access to pickleball opportunities for all.
- Spokane Pickleball Club will act as a liaison between the pickleball community and Parks.
- This initial MOU will run for 2 years. The agreement will then be reviewed for any alterations, with the option of extending for another 3 years.



Pickleball is easier on the joints compared to higher-impact sports like tennis or running, making it suitable for players of all ages and fitness levels.



SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB & SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- PARKS shall not charge the SPC any fees for use of the premises.
- In return, The Spokane Pickleball Club would like to **volunteer** its services for the benefit of Spokane Parks and Recreation to further the growth and outreach of pickleball.
- By funding court improvements such as pickleball nets, court resurfacing & striping projects, court upgrades, lighting, and new court construction.
- Funds will come from SPC membership dues, tournament fees, and fundraising efforts.



Pickleball is easier on the joints compared to higher-impact sports like tennis or running, making it suitable for players of all ages and fitness levels.

The physical activity and social interaction involved in pickleball can help reduce stress and improve moods.



SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB & SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



- SPC will coordinate with PARKS staff on all proposals, projects, and plans funded by its privately-raised funds. SPC acknowledges and agrees that Park Board approval shall be secured in advance of all such capital projects.
- SPC will provide an annual report to the Spokane Park Board on programming, collaboration, outreach, fundraising, and projects completed or in progress.
- Primary facilities of focus are Comstock and Mission Park for Pickleball improvements.
- Medium to long-term funding efforts toward a goal of developing a future dedicated regional pickleball facility at Franklin Park.



The physical activity and social interaction involved in pickleball can help reduce stress and improve moods.



SPOKANE PICKLEBALL CLUB & SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



Suggested Motion:

Move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Spokane Parks and Recreation and Spokane Pickleball Club.



SYSCA

Spokane Youth & Senior Centers Association
2023 Year-End Report

Mid City Concerns

[Return to Minutes](#)

Executive Director: Owen Esperas

2023 Recreation Program Participants	13,659 Participants
2023 Total Volunteer Numbers & Hours	3,289 volunteers donated 6,395 hours
2023 Total Fundraising/Grant Dollars	\$72,557.15

2023 Center Highlights

- Increased Attendance
- Increased Participation
- New and Expanded Community Partnerships

Impacts of Parks & Recreation Funding Support

- Continue to provide seniors programming in the downtown corridor
- New Events, Parties, and Outings

SYSCA

Spokane Youth & Senior Centers Association
2023 Year-End Report

Mid City Concerns

Executive Director: Owen Esperas

Numerica with budgeting tools for members



A musical interlude with Two Grey Cats



Making Macaroni and Cheese with Second Harvest



Morning social hour at Mid-City Concerns



Take me out to the ball game!



Honoring our veterans for their service

SPRING & SUMMER | ACTIVITY GUIDE

APRIL - AUGUST 2024

INSIDE

SPRING YOUTH SPORTS, ART CLASSES,
KAYAK RENTALS & RIVER SHUTTLES,
AQUATICS, VOLLEYBALL, LAWN BOWLING,
SUMMER CAMPS, THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS
AND SO MUCH MORE!



EXPLORE PARKS & REC NATURAL
LEARN CLASSES
SWIM POOLS
PLAY GOLF
ENJOY RIVER FRONT PARK



SPOKANEREC.ORG | CALL 311 OR DIAL 509-755-2489

SUMMER 2024 RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS

Corbin Art Center



MANITO PRESCHOOL ART CAMPS

4 camps offered *(2 more in '23)*
41 participants *(10 less in '23)*
\$3,649 Gross Rev. *(\$854 more in '24)*

CORBIN SUMMER CAMPS

43 camps offered *(3 more in '23)*
655 participants *(14 less '23)*
\$90,854 Gross Rev. *(\$9,812 more in '24)*

NEW

ART/SCI ART SPECIFIC CAMPS @ FINCH

3 camps offered
59 participants
\$14,160 New Gross Rev.

OPEN SWIM NUMBERS

Year	Cannon	Comstock	Hillyard	Liberty	Shadle	Witter	Totals
2024	18,990	29,686	18,162	25,744	28,354	15,760	136,698 ←
2023	15,796	35,271	16,747	17,444	34,390	18,259	127,907
Difference	+3,194	-5,585	+1,415	+8,300	-6,036	-2,499	+8,791



AQUATICS PROGRAM NUMBERS

Year	Programs	Offerings	Participants	Gross Rev.
2024	11	1,397	8,240 ←	\$263,077 ←
2023	11	1,048	7,337	\$236,867
Difference	0	+348	+903	+26,210

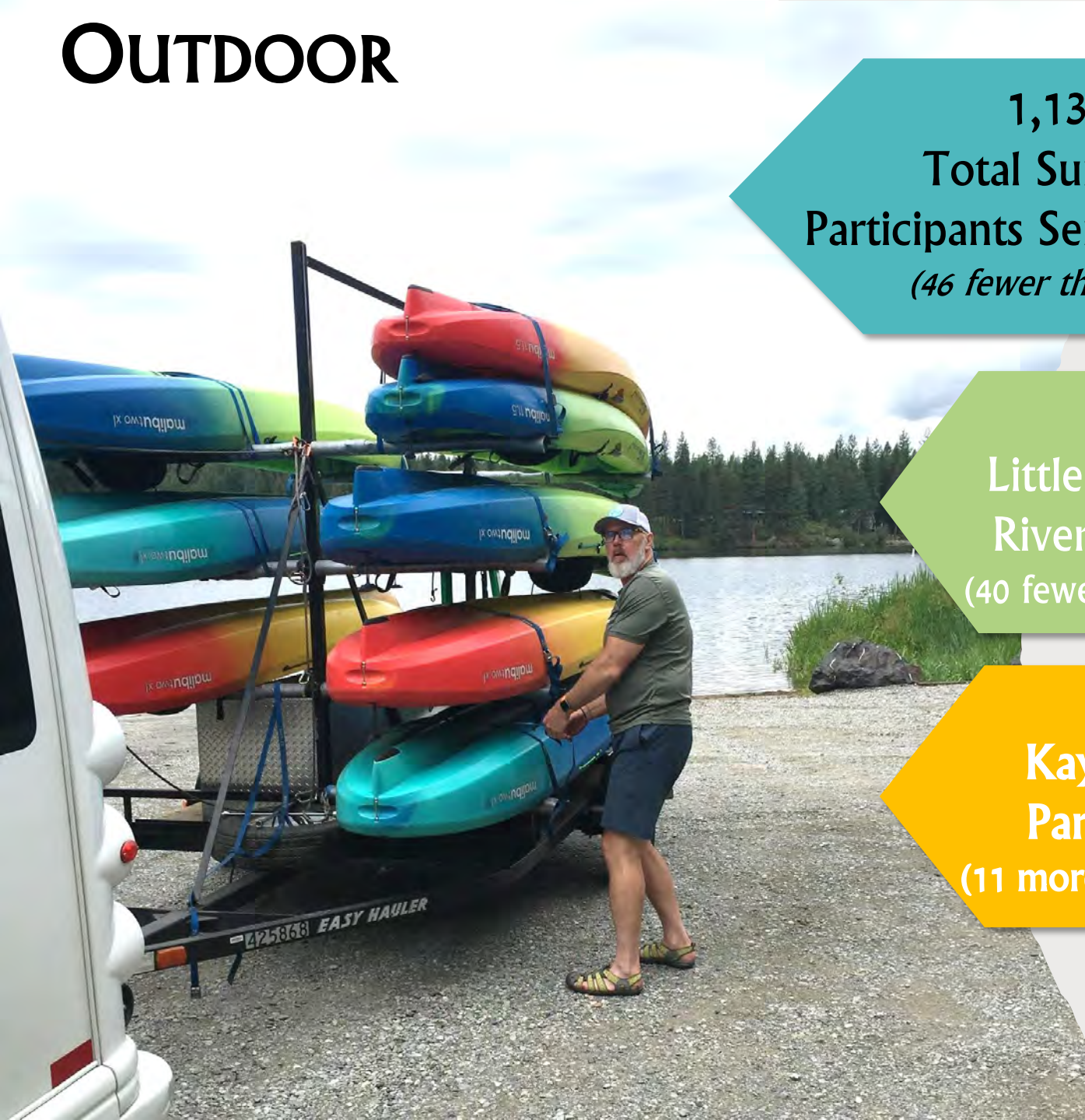
AQUATIC FACILITY RENTAL NUMBERS

Year	Rental Types	Rentals	Participants	Gross Rev.
2024	5	1,200	25,118 ←	\$46,540 ←
2023	5	1,289	27,595	\$46,861

*\$321 revenue decrease
2,477 participant decrease*

OUTDOOR

[Return to Minutes](#)



1,131
Total Summer
Participants Served in 2024
(46 fewer than 2023)

\$115,775
Summer Gross Revenue
(\$1,454 more than 2023)

570
Little Spokane
River Shuttles
(40 fewer than 2023)

90
Little Spokane
River Kayak Rentals
(21 fewer than 2023)

130
Kayak Tour
Participants
(11 more than in 2023)

252
Summer Camp
Participants
(1 more than in 2023)

WELLNESS & ENRICHMENT

1,990

Total Participants
(217 fewer than 2023)

\$70,964

Net Revenue
(\$18,390 more than 2023)

Combination of new program offerings
and strategic program pricing.

171 Summer Day Camp @ Merkel Campers
(27 less than 2023)

\$40,089 (\$7,041 less than 2023)

83

NEW Art/Sci – Science Campers
\$19,730 in New Revenue

[Return to Minutes](#)



ADULT ATHLETICS

[Return to Minutes](#)



Summer Outdoor Volleyball has a record-setting year with 42 teams registered and 252 participants. Compared to 29 teams and 189 participants in 2023.

Summer Adult Softball had 93 teams with the addition of a Women's Division. Compared to 74 teams in 2023.



Therapeutic Recreation Served 420 participants this summer (72 more than 2023) increasing revenue by \$5,000

- The Sensory Swim program in partnership with Aquatics was a huge success!!
- The DogSmile Sailing program has been so popular we added a second program - both were full of happy participants.
- The New TRS Furry Friends and Food program at Bark Rescue Pub was a huge hit!
- Funshine Day camp enjoyed another amazing summer at the Shadle Library and Aquatic Center.

**THANK YOU
FOR THE
AMAZING
JOB YOU DO
EVERY DAY!**

Recreation Staff

- Alice Busch ~ TRS
- Adriano Eva ~ Wellness & Enrichment
- Andy Fuzak ~ Outdoor
- Carissa Gregg ~ Corbin Art Center
- Ryan Griffith ~ Assistant Rec. Director
- Kacie Hurtado ~ Outdoor & Athletics
- Josh Oakes ~ Aquatics & Volleyball
- Carissa Ware ~ Athletics & Allocations