

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 4, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Paul Davis, Parks and Recreation Director

Through: George Garrett, City Manager

Subject: Parks and Recreation Monthly Report

PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

BEACHES

SOMBRERO BEACH

- This has been a very busy holiday season at Sombrero Beach. Large number of families have been visiting the beach during the week and weekend hours.
- We continue to sanitize the restrooms, playground equipment, and pavilion tables.
- We check the restrooms during the day and replace toilet paper and paper towels when necessary.
- Extra portable trash cans were placed on each bridge leading to the beach area, so we did not have an overflow of trash on the beach during this busy season.
- The shade structure for the playground will be going up the week of January 4th. I spoke with Jim from Public Works to arrange to get the proper equipment and personnel to assist with putting up the shade structure at the beach.
- There was an incident with one of the kayak companies utilizing the kayak area near the pier when it came to loading and unloading kayaks. The company was using the handicap parking spots to load and unload kayaks. MCSO deputy told the person he could not park there and he got upset and was given 1 citation.
- The kayak area located on the west side of the beach near the turnaround has not been fixed yet since the damage from the tropical storm. Cones were placed in that area with the signs "Do not enter", but we've noticed people were still occupying that area disregarding the signs. I spoke with Jim from PW and we decided to put up the orange fencing and put signs on both sides of the fencing saying, "Keep Out" and use the south side of the pier for kayak release.
- We were going to have a sandcastle and limbo contest over the Christmas holiday (12/29/20) but decided not to because of the number of people at the beach and the possibility of a large group violating the social distancing guidelines. We are planning on doing this event during spring break depending on the COVID situation in our city.

COCO PLUM

- Beach is open again after sand restoration

PARKS

Jesse Hobbs

- Playground shade structure will be going up the week of January 4th.
- Christmas lights have been taken down.
- Met with Jim from PW to discuss the slippery area in the entrance area to the park. There is a water drainage problem. When it rains the water from the road flows into the park bypassing the drain because the drain is higher than the parking area. That area will need a major overhaul to raise that area and lower the drain so the water can flow into the drain and not into the parking handicap area.
- We raised the double gates entering the playground area, so when it rains the entrance near the parking area will be locked and the double gates will be open so visitors can access the park.

Rotary Park

- Christmas lights have been.
- The last remaining part of the broken fence around the playground area will be replaced the week of January 11th.
- We will also be installing the new sign for the entrance into the park. This will happen the week of January 11th as well.

Oceanfront / Events Field

- Nothing new to report

Community Park

- Started removing Christmas lights
- The food drive took place, Monday, December 21st here at the park from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. the turnout was not as great as expected, but the event ran smoothly without any incidents.
- KAIR hosted their annual Christmas Food Bag pick-up on Saturday, December 19th from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. here at the park near the amphitheater/concession stand. The event ran smoothly without incident.
- The pickle ball group continues to grow and utilize the basketball court area to play pickle ball in the mornings on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for the more advance players play and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings for the beginner players. The advance players assist the beginners with instruction.
- We've had many visitors during the holiday break who visited the Community Park. The tennis courts were occupied throughout the day and evening. The skate park was occupied during the day

and evening hours as well. There were a lot of people walking, jogging and exercises around the park.

- Yoga has started up on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday's at the amphitheater. All the necessary paperwork was submitted by the yoga instructor.
- We had an issue with a couple of areas around the baseball fields that were producing a large amount of water that creating slippery spots that are hazardous for our visitors. I met with Jim and Tom from PW to check out the irrigation system. We were able to locate the areas where the sprinkler heads were the wrong size, and we replaced those sprinkler heads along with shortening the amount of time we run the sprinklers from 30 minutes to 20 minutes.
- There have been some issues with the skate park with kids climbing on the side of the bowl and hiding underneath the bowl and other covered areas. I would like to implement set hours in the afternoon and evening to have my staff supervise that area during those designated times. I was thinking of opening the skate park from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and having my staff work two hour shifts at the skate park to provide more supervision for the skate park. Currently, the park is open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. which leaves it unsupervised most of the day. This can be an issue because we have kids being dropped off at the skate park unsupervised, which can cause issues when no adult supervision is present. This will also allow us to make sure everyone who uses the skate park has a signed waiver on file with us.
- We removed the mud from the slippery area and placed yellow tape around that area until it dries.
- The plan is to install the batting cage before end of the month. We are hoping to have it ready for youth baseball season this year.

PROGRAMS

- We are going to start registration for Start Smart baseball for ages 3-5 years old beginning Monday, January 4, 2021, and hope to have the program start Saturday, February 6, 2021. The program will be every Tuesday and Saturday for 3 weeks. Parent involvement is required.
- We are going to start early registration for youth baseball beginning, Monday, January 11, 2021. We hope to start the season the first week in March by holding baseball clinics for each age group the first two weeks of March and select teams after spring break and the season begins the week after with the conclusion of the season a week before school is out in May.