

Statewide P&R Professionals COVID-19 Coordination Call Meeting Notes

Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 12 Noon

1. AWC and WSAC Statewide Survey of Local Parks and Recreation Agencies (Doug Levy)

Statewide Parks Survey

- WRPA has never done a statewide survey as not all agencies are members. Shortfall within organization. Governor is looking for data and AWC and WSAC are willing to distribute for city/county agencies
- Help is still needed for distribution to Metropolitan Park Districts and Park Districts.
- Tips from AWC - less than 10 questions, Covid and non-Covid questions, not open ended. Get it out soon as there is survey fatigue already and summer yields a lot of out of office replies.
- Feedback:
 - Daryl Faber: survey mentions parks then facilities, are these picnic shelters/park facilities. An apples to apples comparison is important such as types of taxes, parks, parks/recreation, parks/recreation/community center, etc.?
 - Mary Dodsworth: Was tax cumulative? The survey looks to be parks only – need be clear what we are looking for. Does it include programming? facilities? open space? zoos? aquatics? acres maintained (e.g. we have 1000 but maintain 400)?
 - Sarah Olson: NRPA survey available via excel and categories. Sarah to share.
 - Ross Hoover: Important to figure out “why” in designing the survey. How can this data be used at local level or state level? Have comparisons per capita, by operating and capital budget. Use for benchmarking at local level.
 - Pete Meyer: – in terms of data collection. Hopefully can auto-populate a data base. Talk offline about collection and hand entry.
 - Will share with ORPA and other partners
- WRPA will need to help with tabulations from AWC/WSAC
- Doug Levy: Will have a small group to help with survey design. Sign-ups in chat transcript. Key take-a-ways : more precision and better defined terms, get small group together to design, verify data collection methods

2. Mask Compliance: How much are people seeing? What about non-compliance?

- Lacey: In Phase 3. So far good compliance. Sports teams (tournaments) must have mask unless on playing field. First 37 team tournament this weekend – unsure of what that will look like it. Not sure how to enforce as police have other priorities.
- WA State Parks: Rangers do education and are taken more seriously than by a regular staff. People outdoors feel like they don't need it.
- Lake Stevens: Public calling police about noncompliance. Set up non-emergency Police number. Police will determine compliance/methods of enforcements. There is a general split among groups, e.g. everyone wearing masks or no one wearing masks.

- Kirkland: Programs not operating and parks, especially water front, are very crowded. Good compliance with families but not teens/young adults who are bringing volleyball nets, tearing down signs, other sporting equipment. Have park ambassadors to hand out masks, flyers, poop bags to get compliance. Parks not doing enforcement.
- Si View Parks: Kids doing well with day camps. Have “mask time out” areas when they need a break from them.

3. Fall programming planning?

- Kirkland: Making assumptions and have various plans for start dates for Phase 3. Planning that all of 2021 will be Phase 4 but with social distancing. Closing some small rooms, moving programs outdoors, exploring options to change how programs are offered. No catalog for marketing, will do flyer or oversize postcard instead.
- Bainbridge Island: Specific interest in marketing. Bainbridge Island will not be doing regular catalog but mailing a small “insert” marketing piece instead.

4. Indoor Fitness Programs

- Lacey: Looking at Phase 3 guidelines. What are agencies doing with rentals and indoor fitness? What if HVAC can’t accommodate ventilation? Keeping doors/windows open? What about renting historical buildings?
- Spokane: Trying to trying to enforce masks, with no success. No indoor facilities that City owns and maintains, has partners for this. Using local health district to help with conversations on guidelines, e.g. 15 folks in gym for yoga is ok or not a good idea. Local businesses are now using outdoor space for operations such as parks for yoga class. City currently allowing these to move forward even though there is no contract/insurance.

5. Group Open Discussion

- Bellingham: Anyone doing community rentals and sample conditions/guidelines to share?
 - Lynnwood: Picnic shelters on hold to phase 3 and will keep to 50 person or fewer. No discussions yet on indoor rentals.
 - Lacey: Currently considering indoor rentals but City Hall is limited access, so figuring out how to open community center at 50% or less than 50 persons. Have safety plan (HR/AWC /Legal review complete). Will likely wait until August before rentals begin. Have remaining questions on ventilation, especially for historic house with no ventilation system.
 - Lake Stevens: Not renting indoor facilities unless compliance with Phase 2, which is 5 or less people. When in Phase 3 will do limited number of events. Not currently doing picnic shelter rentals.
- King County: Are folks scheduling ball fields for Phase 3?
 - Auburn: Beginning in phase 3 with scheduling/activities. Anyone else experiencing renegade groups showing up for tournaments?
 - King County: Have seen unauthorized play at ball fields. Difficult to control.

- Pen Met: Have outdoor movies scheduled for mid-August. Have distancing in place. Thoughts/plans for outdoor or drive in movies?
 - Lacey: Have first event with 50 people today with safety plan, distancing circles on grass. For movies in August, will have circles and registration-only with waitlist in place. Entertainers have been great with scheduling extra sessions when registrations are full. However, staff will be basing future events on success of earlier events. If people follow rules then move forward, if not then will cancel.
 - Metro Parks Tacoma: Have drive-in movies in August. Will have FM transmitter for audio. Using every other parking stall as governor has strict guidance on this. FM transmitter sold on Amazon and can plug in. No lag with FM but will test shortly.
- Lynnwood: Playgrounds are closed but people are using them. Any updated sanitation protocols?
 - Lacey: Health Dept helped with signage and that people bring own hand sanitizer and use it frequently. Suggested follow-up with Pierce County who may be using sprayers on equipment.
- Burien: Anyone planning for after school programs, especially with hybrid school schedules?
 - Metro Parks Tacoma: Beginning conversations such as for high school or middle school. There is a need and trying to find a way to meet need.

Good of the Order:

Pete Mayer: Send next week's agenda topics to peterm@tacomaparks.com as Travis is on vacation.

Chat Transcript

12:06:32 From Mary Dodsworth : Pete - you're awesome! and I do think you can be in two places at one time!

12:06:59 From David W - Bonney Lake : I second those nominations

12:07:15 From David W - Bonney Lake : all in favor

12:08:59 From Mary Dodsworth : yeah Tracey - thanks for stepping up!

12:09:51 From Jennifer Burbidge : I know Paul is out of town

12:20:11 From daryl faber : happy to help out

12:20:24 From Tracey Perkosky : I can help with the survey as well

12:21:27 From Amanda Parsons (ORPA) : This is Amanda with Oregon Recreation & Park Association (just listening in), if you don't mind looping me in with your final document, we'd love to send out something similar to our membership in Oregon so there is combined information between our two states.

12:21:52 From Cailín H - Renton : I would be happy to help - count me in.

12:22:24 From Mary Dodsworth : How would this survey be facilitated? one staff person suggested a google survey with the QR code. its so fast and you can do it on your phone. You could just email the QR code out. It is so easy and google analyzes it immediately.

12:22:29 From Doug Nelson : Doug, if you need input from a mid-size metro district I am happy to assist. - Doug N

12:24:54 From KPPD_User : I am Laura Armstrong with Key Pen Parks and if you need additional input from a small park district I would be willing to help as well

12:26:03 From Angie Feser : interested in helping with the survey, especially with the follow up piece

12:26:42 From Angie Feser : (Angie Feser/Edmonds)

12:27:25 From Amanda Parsons (ORPA) : Thanks!

12:28:20 From Doug Hodson : KC Parks is seeing a lot of non-compliance

12:28:56 From Doug Hodson : We are focusing on messaging but not enforcing...

12:29:19 From Tara Mizell : Day campers adjusting well to masks in Marysville.

12:30:22 From bpetty : We started Camps this week and the kids are doing a great job of keeping their mask on. Pleasantly surprised.

12:34:26 From Mary McCluskey : We are still in Phase 2, but have had good mask usage for our limited programs: tennis and sailing. Both outdoors of course.

12:35:48 From David W - Bonney Lake : Bonney Lake is going through our program guide from last year and taking each program and making a determination based on each phase how we can make it work, if it will work. hope to have a single page of program offerings by the end of August.

12:36:16 From Tara Mizell : We are not sending out a printed guide. We have rebuilt our website to make it easier for folks to use that and will use our mass email lists to engage the public. Programs will be adjusted to the current phase.

12:37:16 From David W - Bonney Lake : No printed document for fall, we will produce something but it will be entirely digital. Maybe just a couple of pages.

12:37:47 From Shelley Brittingham : Staff have been planning for fall programs assuming phase 3 conditions and keeping physical distancing guideline and facility capacity in mind. Are delaying andevaluating traditional program brochure and considering other marketing options similar to what others are doing.

12:37:47 From kristyd : We in Burien ARE NOT going to print a brochure we will utilize the website as well as target marketing. I am curious to know how many are looking at After School programs

12:37:47 From Jeff Betz Mountlake Terrace : Mountlake Terrace is digital only for fall...exact same look as printed.

12:38:14 From Kimberly Shelton : Everett will be using these times to move away from the printed catalog moving forward.

12:38:18 From Sarah Olson : Lynnwood is still planning on a printed brochure however our publishing company went out of business and we're having to get a new printer.

12:38:47 From Shelley Brittingham : What strategies are people using to reach those who may not have access to digital?

12:39:06 From Mary McCluskey : Poulsbo is also using this time to move away from a printed and mailed version. Emailing to our existing patrons is our best bet.

12:43:51 From Suzanne (Washington State Parks) : How about posting to the various social forums like Nextdoor?

12:43:54 From bpetty : For county's in Phase 2, how are you dealing with Teams and Leagues having games and tournaments on your fields?

12:44:05 From Doug Hodson : Looking ahead to Phase 3, are agencies planning to schedule ballfields for games...yes/no? Still thinking about it? If yes, are you considering any modifications to scheduling to accommodate reduced maintenance staffing levels?

12:45:55 From kristyd : Shelley, here in Burien we don't anticipate having any rentals indoor or outdoor until Phase 4

12:47:18 From Shelley Brittingham : Thank you Jennifer. sbrittingham@bellevuewa.gov

12:47:36 From Jeff Betz Mountlake Terrace : Mountlake Terrace is renting ballfields for small group practices no games....no indoor rentals

12:47:40 From Shelley Brittingham : thanks everyone.

12:47:43 From Lynn Zwaagstra, Parks and Community Services : Kirkland is not allowing games, tournaments or any organized use of fields in phase 2. If we find an organization using the fields, we ask them to cease or lose rental privileges in the future. For unorganized groups, we ask for compliance. We plan to allow games in phase 3. We have reduced maintenance levels, but will scale up a bit when phase 3 goes forward.

12:48:39 From Shelley Brittingham : Thank Kristy re: the info from Burien

12:48:41 From Suzanne (Washington State Parks) : When we get to Phase 3, we will probably rent ballfields for Cricket, softball, baseball, etc. at St. Edward and Lake Samm, but require a COVID compliance plan from the groups reserving the fields.

12:49:08 From Jeff Betz Mountlake Terrace : Mountlake Terrace Games Phase 3

12:51:05 From Sarah Olson : Lynnwood has outdoor movies scheduled for August as well but may have to cancel if Sno Co doesn't get to Phase 3. Looking at moving to Drive In movies instead.

12:51:39 From Nikki : Lakewood has 2 drive in movies scheduled in August.

12:52:14 From Mike Farrell : Monroe is pondering the same as Lynnwood regarding outdoor movies

12:53:08 From Doug Hodson : King County Parks hosted the first of several drive-in movie events at Marymoor Park last night

12:53:29 From Doug Hodson : We work with Epic Events to produce the movies.

12:53:50 From Robert Eaton : Maple Valley is planning for two drive-in movies in the near future. Using FM radio for audio.

12:54:04 From Doug Nelson : thanks for all the feedback everyone!!

12:56:33 From Christina Hallock : Our playground sign.

12:59:09 From kristyd : Thank you Julian and Mary

12:59:29 From Doug Levy - Regional Affairs Consultant, Renton : Gang I have to run - always appreciate these discussions! - Levy-