



Washington Recreation
& Park Association

Aquatics Network Meeting
Mountlake Terrace Recreation Pavilion
Thursday, May 16th 2019
10:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Introductions

Discussion Topics

- AOAP looking for Presenters. Deadline 8/31/19. Conference 2/17-2/20, 2020 Frisco TX
 - Good conference, good location, always looking for new aquatics speakers. 2021 in Reno
- Proposals for WRPA 2020 conference open next week. Deadline 9/15/19
 - In Tacoma, not a lot of aquatics speakers in 2019 so the more we can get, the better. Rose Ploeg and Bridget Verhai on conference committee
- Updating WRPA Aquatics page
 - Dates
 - Events
 - Contact info
 - We are getting back control of this page. Is there anything you would like to see on it?
- Luther Burbank Park unguarded this summer (levy failed)
 - How to explain to community why investing in aquatics is important
 - Convincing voters is different than convincing city council
 - Sometimes getting the word out too much can backfire
 - Why water safety in the PNW is more important than other places
- Prepping for summer
 - Hiring
 - Training—what are you doing?
 - Maintenance/shutdowns
 - Most are having decent hiring
 - Creating incentives to work
 - Volunteer for free LG classes
 - Cultivating a jr guard program
 - Using experienced guards to help run training
 - Gives opportunity to show value
 - Creating a LG 2 position for those not quite ready to be head guards

- WRPA conference
 - Items discussed at meeting
 - Cool ideas to try
 - Finding ways to bring tech to aquatics

Planning

- 2019 Skill builder June 8th
 - Register NOW!!!
 - 87 registered so far, about to hit cap. Register before it's too late

Member/Facility Updates

- Covington
 - Lots of hiring happening, losing leads this summer
 - Hiring two full time mid management aquatics staff
 - Feasibility study approved
- Shoreline
 - Bond for new facility on Nov ballot
 - New facility has been planned
 - 8 lanes, diving board, leisure pool
- Si-View
 - Hiring, jr guards get free LG class for volunteering
 - Trying to start swim voucher program
 - Competing with Y
- Federal Way
 - Created LG 2 position
 - Creating a position for 14/15 year olds
 - Shutting down for a week in September but no new slide
- Rainer Pool
 - Getting new scoreboard, equipment, etc. in August
- Lake Stevens
 - Pool drained and ready for renovation
 - New pricing structure
- Bellevue
 - Lots of hiring
 - Meydenbauer beach is open and ready for crowds
 - Partnering w/ REI for paddle sport rentals
 - Upcoming LG course
 - Rates going up to 14/hr for pool guards, 15/hr for beach guards
- Issaquah
 - Good hiring, not a lot of loss for summer
 - Want to increase rates more but capped at 6%

- Snohomish
 - Went to NDPA (National Drowning Prevention Alliance) conference
 - Good info
 - Not a lot of aquatics people there
 - Lots of cool tech for lifesaving
 - Running lots of LG courses (1 full course a month)
 - Moved to DASH
 - Need more swim instructors
 - Short closure after labor day
- Mountlake Terrace
 - Always hiring
 - Hiring new fulltime head guard
 - All swim coaches coming back
 - Maintenance closure June 17-21
 - New website design
 - New city hall starting construction

Items for Future Discussion

- Adding conference call to meetings so out of towners can participate
 - Yes, should be easy to make happen at most meeting locations.