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

Agenda

Introductions

Discussion Topics

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

Planning

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

Member/Facility Updates

• Covington
  o Lots of hiring happening, losing leads this summer
  o Hiring two full time mid management aquatics staff
  o Feasibility study approved

• Shoreline
  o Bond for new facility on Nov ballot
  o New facility has been planned
    ▪ 8 lanes, diving board, leisure pool

• Si-View
  o Hiring, jr guards get free LG class for volunteering
  o Trying to start swim voucher program
  o Competing with Y

• Federal Way
  o Created LG 2 position
  o Creating a position for 14/15 year olds
  o Shutting down for a week in September but no new slide

• Rainer Pool
  o Getting new scoreboard, equipment, etc. in August

• Lake Stevens
  o Pool drained and ready for renovation
  o New pricing structure

• Bellevue
  o Lots of hiring
  o Meydenbauer beach is open and ready for crowds
  o Partnering w/ REI for paddle sport rentals
  o Upcoming LG course
  o Rates going up to 14/hr for pool guards, 15/hr for beach guards

• Issaquah
  o Good hiring, not a lot of loss for summer
  o Want to increase rates more but capped at 6%
• Snohomish
  o Went to NDPA (National Drowning Prevention Alliance) conference
    ▪ Good info
    ▪ Not a lot of aquatics people there
    ▪ Lots of cool tech for lifesaving
  o Running lots of LG courses (1 full course a month)
  o Moved to DASH
  o Need more swim instructors
  o Short closure after labor day
• Mountlake Terrace
  o Always hiring
  o Hiring new fulltime head guard
  o All swim coaches coming back
  o Maintenance closure June 17-21
  o New website design
  o New city hall starting construction

Items for Future Discussion
• Adding conference call to meetings so out of towners can participate
  o Yes, should be easy to make happen at most meeting locations.