Urban Recreation Roundtable

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Discussion

Biggest challenge

Jeff Larsen: biggest impact to us is educating the public. social distancing is biggest

ksanders: yes funding is a concern, Harrisburg

Other functions of dept.

Jeff Larsen: Offered childcare to city employees.

Brian Sell: Bill Powell - Laughter yoga

John HrebikOwner : Allentown, nothing has occurred. Actually voluntary and involuntary layoffs have

occurred in the Recreation Dept. and other City Depts.

Reduction in Staff?

Megan Prusienski: I'm on a department of one. so I'm here!

Jeff Larsen: full capacity here

https://youtu.be/OOSS_ESmHkQ therapeutic 4/27

colimpo: furloughs are happening

Erica Genuardi Norristown Rec: Norristown has only 2 employees:)

Heather Dighe: furloughs happened-probably will extend

Part timers furloughed in Upper Merion

ksanders: No Furloughs as of right now, issues will happen later in the year with revenues

Gregory E. Kriner: Furloughs for entire department, but me and I've been spoken to about being furloughed.

Day /Summer Camps and Pools

Erica Genuardi Norristown Rec: Norristown will be offering - we are looking to max out our numbers to small groups and limiting the full day camp offering special half day programs.

colimpo: How will you be social distancing?

Cheri Matter: I heard today that a municipality in Cumberland County cancelled summer camp and will not open their pool. They serve a population of 25,000

John HrebikOwner: Allentown is in Gov. Wolf's RED zone. Don't see us getting to yellow for a while let alone green. I do not envision a summer playground program happening in Allentown this summer. The uncertainty to everything is just too much!

Megan Prusienski: Agree, John. trying to plan for 1000 scenarios is exhausting and no one knows...

Heather Dighe: For all-will you operate as "childcare" and reopen in the yellow zone or will you operate as "recreation and school" and not plan to open until we are in green?

Nancy Opalka: received a call from a resident who was told that their child's 8 week overnight camp in the Poconos has been cancelled. They are looking for local camps.

ksanders: Harrisburg City, the Governors speech today shall shed some direction for us. We are looking bleak without the Governor's guidelines. We are looking at doing a food program and safety awareness program with our full time staff. We are concerned if the pools and playgrounds do not open.

Kathi Muller: Philadelphia just announced that pools will not open this summer.

Mike G: Can't really comment on it or speak to it but Philly's Mayor announced that their 70 pools will not open this summer as a cost saving measure.

Erica Genuardi Norristown Rec : We pushed out start date to July 1

John HrebikOwner: Pools are a losing proposition to start with. With social distancing, later start than Memorial Day and everyone's fears, I can't see any pools opening!

John HrebikOwner: Any place with a population is going to be RED!!!!

Niki Tourscher:

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Effect of Phases

Jeff Larsen: governor listed all 67 counties as stay at home just now until 5/8

Nancy Opalka: no matter what phase we are in isn't there still social distancing requirements and wearing of masks? we need to be creative when planning our camp options

Niki Tourscher: Yes, even in yellow phase we must maintain social distance and masks.

John HrebikOwner: Allentown has no Youth Basketball leagues or Adult volleyball leagues this summer.

Parks and facilities

Megan Prusienski: we were going to open our restrooms when bucks does.

Jeff Larsen: restrooms are still closed. we've added social distancing signs in both parks and trails.

John HrebikOwner: Allentown all outside restrooms are closed. trash is being picked up daily in the parks with everyone walking.

Michele Schasberger: what about tennis?

John HrebikOwner: Social distancing and voluntary mask signage is at all entry ways as a reminder but does not always being followed.

Jeff Larsen: we just opened our tennis and pickleball courts

Heather Dighe: Are there any other programs people are trying to plan for the summer- Movies in the

Park, etc?

Jeff Larsen: monitoring

Megan Prusienski: our concerts are not overly crowded so I think we MAY try to spread our crowd out?

depending if we're allowed to gather more than 25

Parks Support

Dan Hendey: Heather would like talking points on the importance of recreation

John HrebikOwner: Yes, always a concern. Once something gets lost it gets easy not to replace enirely!

Dan Hendey: PRPS - Tell your story survey on website

John HrebikOwner: However, walking costs nothing to do!

Thank you!

John HrebikOwner: Thank you to everyone!

Gregory E. Kriner: Thank you Dan & Niki