



PRCS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Q2 Edition: April-June 2019

- Civic & Convention Center
- Parks Maintenance
- Recreation Center
- Valdez Consortium Library

Director Updates:

Nicolas Farline, PRCS Director

- P&R Mission and Vision Task Force
- Master Planning Recruitment Initiative
- 2020 Youth Summer Program
- New Internship Model Implemented
- Various updates to entity MOU's, RFP's, and agreements
- Hired new Recreation Manager: Tyler Florence

Civic & Convention Center

- Hosted The Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Record Number of theatre patrons for the performances.
- Over 2100 Civic Center Cinema tickets were sold this quarter with approximately \$17,000 in gross ticket sales.
- The Alaska Telephone Conference which holds a yearly conference of telephone providers and technicians from all over the state enjoyed a successful event at the Civic Center during the first of the quarter.
- To date, over 1200 Viking Cruise Ship guests have attended a showing of the movie "Between the Glacier and the Sea" at the Civic Center throughout the summer.



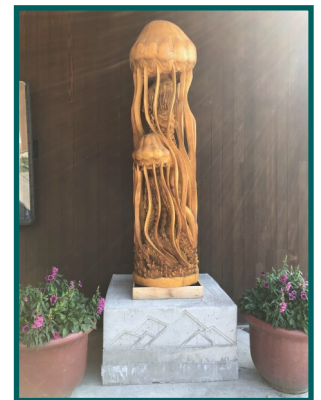
New flag pole with landscaping and pathway down to Ruth Pond.

A fire sprinkler activation drenched hundreds of gallons of water in the electrical and boiler room causing a shut-down of the Civic Center on Sunday, July 7th. Our



maintenance department and local electricians worked diligently to have service restored to

1 of 2 new swings that have recently arrived outside the Civic Center.



Pictured is one of thirteen wood carvings that can be found in various locations around Valdez. The jellyfish at the Civic Center was mounted and installed by the Parks Maintenance crew.

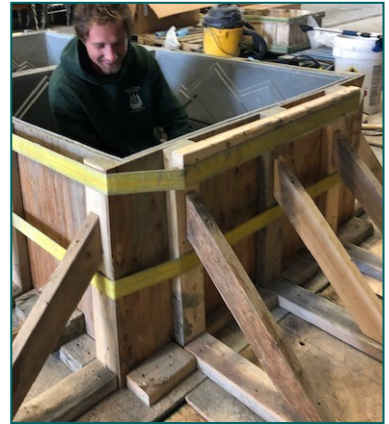
Parks Maintenance

Major Projects:

- Chainsaw Carving Repairs and Installation

Concrete base forms were built, poured, and then cured and rebuilt. This was repeated four times as we did not have enough of the salvaged concrete stamps to pour more than two at a time.

The forms were designed with fork holes to lift and move the artwork easily. The concrete stamps were re-used from the Egan Street seat wall project. Treated 4x12's were anchored into the concrete to then attach the carvings, so that they may be removed for maintenance or replaced as needed.



- Civic Center Shelter Area Rebuild

The old shelters were rotten and no longer safe to use. Park Maintenance took them off of the hill using a crane and the rotten legs were cut down to the usable wood. They were then placed atop concrete pillars we built and stamped using the salvaged Egan Street seat wall stamps. The area was then turned into a new flagpole location adjacent to the light pole and will supply the required night lighting of the US flag. A trail was also created which links into the Ruth Pond trail. Other amenities include a safety fence along the steep hill edge and two new uddy glider swings.



- Trail Work

Also at the Civic Center, a new extension was built from the Overlook Trail west-end to allow our many cruise ship visitors easy access to the trail without walking up the paved roadway or through a parking lot to begin their hike. This is a much safer avenue to see the town from above.

Parks Maintenance

Objectives met this quarter:

April

- Interviews, hiring and training of summer staff
- Grooming to begin no later than April 15th
- Chainsaw carving repairs and installation work
- Tower drop retrieval
- Aerator Installation on Ruth Pond
- Begin clearing Yellow Building
- MOA with softball and little league (driven by Director w/ info from PM)
- Met with MWR and coordinated early access preparation for "May Day Fly In Early Bird Camping"
- Begin Coordinating cleanup of range with USCG (U.S. Coast Guard)
- Remove Ski Hill handles...close for season
- Cemetery Expansion plan begins

May

- Chainsaw carving repairs and installation work
- Provide event services for:
- May Day Fly In
- Military Appreciation day
- School District BBQ
- City Clean-Up day
- Flower pick up from 80 mile
- Interviewing hire and training new staff
- Ball field Prep
- Junior High Volunteer Day
- Clean and prep all courts
- Playground and parks inspections begin
- Dog Park Prep and water line blow out and activate
- Pressure washing all rental venues for use
- Airmen's Memorial Installation
- Construct Rebar cages for shelter post replacement
- Begin moving out summer amenities to parks
- VCS (Valdez City Schools) use of Dock Point and MC (Mineral Creek) State Park access schedule and plan
- Headstone installations begin
- Ladd/Barr replacement
- Trenching for electrical wiring of ski hill sheds
- Ski Hill barn Install

May (continued)

- Prep for West Egan construction and yellow building demo, move everything to storage
- Paint Civic Center Transplanted shelters
- Work with streets on bulldozing Frisbee Golf and Archery
- Follow up conditional use permit for MC Trails with Com Dev
- Finish meals (dog park area) grading, drainage, and hydro seeding.

June

- Chainsaw carving repairs and installation work
- Provide event services for:
- Relay for life
- Fish derby set up
- Cruise ships
- Harbor Grand Opening
- Up to FULL staff
- Finish Putting out tables, cans
- Putting up all seasonal signage
- Training ALL summer staff on facilities, machinery operations, projects, trails, power tool ops
- Trail clearing
- MC (Mineral Creek) State Park
- Wagon Road
- Overlook
- Ruth Pond
- Dock Point
- Goat Trail
- Spiral Mountain
- North Meyring Shelter contract demolition product retrieval and storage
- Begin Archery installation in cooperation with PWSC and Steve Shields
- Chainsaw Carving Installation
- Hydro-seeding project areas
- Harbor grand opening stage and ceremony prep and sage build.

Parks Maintenance

Looking Forward:

July

- Provide event services for:
 - July 4th events
 - Kids derby
 - Cruise ships
- Anchor all barns
- Install Civic Center Flag pole and landscaping
- Continue work on Disc golf course
- Build archery targets
- Archery turf work
- Installation of archery and fencing and signage
- Paint Nebesna sheds
- Finish turf work at North Meyring picnic shelter old location
- Begin construction on barn extension at ski hill for snow machine storage
- Install new signage at natural use areas
- Legal concerns follow up
- Trail Clearing

Recreation

Ike “Woody” Woodman Recreation Center

Community Rec Hours:

Designated unstructured recreation hours for all ages. A responsible guardian must accompany participants under 8 years of age. Monday – Friday: 9am – 7pm & Saturday: 12pm – 7pm Attendees get full access to the game room. Billiards, ping pong, air hockey, foosball, Xbox One, and a plethora of board games. Cash-only snack bar is open with a variety of sweet & savory snacks.

Tot Gym:

During Summer Fun Camps, the dance room was unavailable for Mighty Mites. In its place, we offered Tot Gym at Hermon Hutchens Elementary School Gym. Like Mighty Mites, Tot Gym is for parents and their children under 6 years of age. Mon/Wed: 9:30 – 11am.

This program was unstructured playtime for little ones. A small variety of big wheels, assorted gym equipment (balls, juggling & ribbons), as well as the bouldering wall were available to use. This activity was drop-in. All children needed to be accompanied.

Facility Rentals:

Due to Summer Fun Camps, the dance room was not available for reservations in July. The game room provides full-access to all of the gaming equipment.

Dance Room rentals, with an additional flat-rate fee can accommodate Mighty Mite toys, which seems to be a hit for toddler birthdays. The BBQ Patio is open for the season and can be reserved as an addition to a dance room and/or game room rental.



Recreation Center Game Room

Recreation Center

Summer Fun Camps:

Structured, full-day camps for children entering 1st through 8th grade. Monday – Friday, 9:00AM– 5:00PM. Each day offered an assortment of outdoor recreation, games, arts & crafts, and S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) learning.

Activities were programmed and planned by the Adult & Youth Activities Coordinator, Recreation Center Coordinator, Recreation Center Office Assistant and P&R Interns.

Week 1: Week of Rock (Rock Climbing & Geology)

Week 2: Wild Week (Hiking, Wildlife & Plant Life)

Week 3: Making Waves (Water Sports & Lakes, Ponds, Rivers and Ocean)

Looking Forward:

- 4th of July Kid's Gold Panning
- Fall Explorers– Thursday's in September

Job Opportunity:

We are recruiting for a Recreation Center Programmer to facilitate a variety of recreation activities, classes & events. Apply via the City of Valdez website. www.valdezak.gov/jobs.



Summer Fun Camp gives children the opportunity to learn about their environment through creative activities and field trips.

Adult & Youth

In July, Adult & Youth Activities assisted in summer camps, organized a 5k, hosted gym activities, and organized group hikes!

In July, gym activities were limited due to construction at the school's and resurfacing of the gym floors. Below is the attendance for our July programming;

- Pickleball: We hosted 9.5 hours of Pickleball with 24 participants
- Rockwall Adult Climb: We hosted 3 hours of Adult Climb with 17 participants
- Rockwall Family Climb: We hosted 7.5 hours of Family climb with 69 participants
- Group Hikes: We hosted 3 group hikes with 15 participants

Summer Fun: We hosted three weeks of camps:

Week of Rock: 17 participants

Wild Week: 19 participants

Making Waves: 22 participants

4th of July Uncle Salmon 5k: We provided both a 1-mile race route and a 5k race route. We had 5 participants partake in the 1-mile race route and 133 participants partake in the 5k race route.



Summer Fun Camp Mineral Creek hike during Wild Week.

Looking Forward:

- H.A.W.K. is underway, gym activities will resume fall schedules in August, preparing for September events~SWAN 5k, Rock Climbing Clinics with Marcus Garcia in partnership with PWSC.

Recreation Center

Aquatics

The Aquatics Coordinator has been working on plans for Canoe Jousting for the 4th of July Festival and Gold Rush Days.

The Aquatics Coordinator is also working on re-writes of our facility Operation Manuals for the Rec Center, Ski Hill, Gyms & Rock Wall, Aquatic Center, and our Outdoor/Adventure Programs.

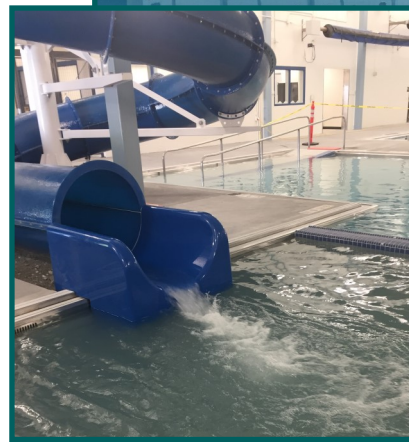
Work has also been done to prepare for the re-opening of the pool facility, to include recruitment of staff, working out new operation plans to include front desk operations, and a new pool schedule. We're working towards an Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to happen Sunday, August 18th and to be open to the public starting on Wednesday, August 21st.

Looking Forward:

Lifeguard Class: August 12th-14th 9:30am-8:00pm, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Open House, August 18th, 2019; 4:00pm, and First Public Open Swim, August 21st, 2019; 7:00pm.

In the interim, Aquatic Coordinator's location has been moved to the Rec Center, and phone number is 835-6598 Ext. 1. I will be moving back to the pool mid-August.

We are still recruiting for many pool staff positions. Applications can be completed online at www.valdezak.gov/jobs.



Images of new waterside and removable rock wall which are two of numerous additions and up-grades completed during the renovation.

Valdez Consortium Library

Library Corner:

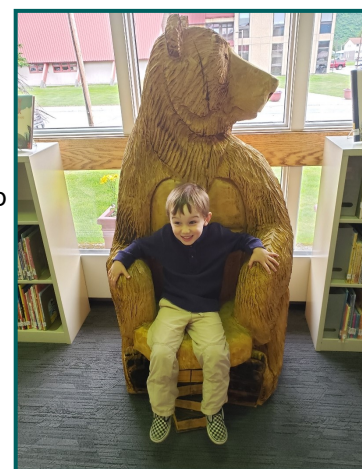
Summer Reading is in full swing at the Valdez Consortium Library, and there is still plenty of time to sign up and win some prizes! After just 10 hours of reading you will receive a prize bag with coupons for items around town, and you will be entered into the final grand prize drawing. The Summer Reading Program is open to all ages, stop by and sign up any time the library is open.



*Community Summer Reading Program.
"A Universe of Stories"*

Want to know what else is happening at your library? Make sure you like and follow the Valdez Consortium Library's brand new Facebook page. This is the place to stay in the know about library programs and services.

<https://www.facebook.com/ValdezLibrary/>



*Caption: Youth enjoying reading time on the carved bear chair.
Photo taken by Susan Love*