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CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: July 19, 2021

To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager
Brian Goul, Recreation Director

Subject: Troy Racquet Club Annual Report

The Troy Racquet Club has a contract with the City to lease the space located at 3400 Civic Center Drive from the City. The contract requires monthly payments, and the Troy Racquet Club pays for all maintenance, improvements, and infrastructure.

The Troy Racquet Club is an indoor tennis facility with 8 courts, it has been in operation for over 40 years. Air structures are erected over the City of Troy outdoor tennis courts every September, giving Club members an indoor winter retreat until the bubbles come down in May. It is a first-class club featuring great lighting and background, locker rooms with showers & towels, a lounge with TV and fireplace, child care, ice & vending machines, and a filtered water bottle filler. In 2018 the courts were completely re-surfaced, and new air structures.

Attached is the Troy Racquet Club Annual Report as required by the contract.

Troy Racquet Club

June 24, 2021

Overview

Even with difficulties and closures due to the COVID pandemic, Troy Racquet Club “TRC” had a successful 2020. We quickly developed and implemented a comprehensive safety protocol following CDC and State guidelines. To comply with State of Michigan Orders, TRC officially closed from March 16 through May 31, 2020. We elected to have an additional shut down in November to ensure member safety. Credits were offered to all Members for unused court time and pre-paid clinics. The majority (98%) of all Members chose to carry the credits forward as opposed to receiving a refund; this significantly helped TRC cash flow during this difficult period.

Membership

Troy Racquet Club has approximately 756 current members; 50% are Troy residents. Membership is up more 15% since the inception of the new lease.

Improvements

TRC installed new efficient LED indoor lighting in the domes in September 2020. This significantly increased visibility and court illumination. The original outdoor lighting was replaced in 2018 but did not sufficiently fill the shadowed spaces. Additional investment has been made to further update the outdoor lighting and is expected to be installed June 29, 2021. This will further improve lighting and visibility on the middle courts.

Pickleball was introduced in 2019 and has steadily grown over the past 24 months. We now offer drop-in pickleball play, instructional lessons, and leagues.

Leagues & Lessons

Troy Racquet Club offered 12 leagues during the 2020-2021 season. The leagues use anywhere from 2 to 6 courts. Leagues are available several times a week including daytime, weekends, and evenings.

Troy Racquet Club also continues to offer several drill sessions available for sign up on a weekly basis. 5 to 8 clinics a week are available to members and non-members alike.

Troy Racquet Club Academy, led by our three Head Pros, offers a wide range of programs for players from beginners through intermediate. These lessons serve players from Troy and the surrounding communities; approximately 80% of students are Troy residents

Below is a summary of 2020-2021 attendance for rolling 8-week classes:

- Summer I 2020 - 238 students in 64 classes
- Summer II 2020 - 267 students in 52 classes
- Fall I 2020 - 374 students in 66 classes
- Indoor Session II 2020 - 321 students in 66 classes
- Indoor Session III 2021 - 323 students in 62 classes

- Indoor Session IV 2021 - 331 students in 60 classes
- Summer Session I 2021 - 548 students in 90 classes

Based on our recent summer sign ups, the academy classes are headed for record attendance in 2021/2022.

Summary

Due to increased membership, academy class growth, and pickleball diversification, TRC is poised to continue the current growth trajectory. To accommodate additional demand for members and the Troy Racquet Club Academy tennis activities, TRC management is actively exploring ways to add additional courts adjacent to our current facility. Plans are being developed for review with City of Troy Recreation Director and ultimately presentation to City Council this fall.