



Memo: Request to Reduce Non-Resident Daily Rates for Page and Rockwell Pools

From: Jaimie Clout, Aquatics Supervisor

To: Dr. Joshua Medeiros, Superintendent of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services and the Board of Park Commissioners

2/12/2020

I am writing with the intent to appeal to the Parks Board in regards to the fee structure for the outdoor pools for non-residents. In 2015, our department made significant increases to the daily pool entry fee for non-residents. This act was done by former Parks Superintendent Ed Swicklas and previous Mayor, Ken Cockayne. Their reasoning for the change was warranted as we were having a significant issue with residents not being able to enter Rockwell Pool due to the City of Waterbury busing kids into the park to swim for next to nothing for cost. This influx of non-residents prevented our own residents from being able to enter the pool as we had no way to enforce a "residents-only" pool entry policy. Since the establishment of the increased fees, the presence of non-residents at our pools, specifically, Rockwell have dropped off. However, in terms of outdoor pool attendance, we have found our non-resident attendance drop off significantly (upwards of 40% for the last 4 years of pool entry stats). This trend has negatively affected our daily drop in revenue. A reduction in the pool fee may actually result in an overall increase in revenue as the pools will be more affordable. I firmly believe in the fact that our department created a financial barrier for pool use that non-residents cannot afford to come swimming. With your support, I would like to propose that we move to consider re-evaluation of the non-resident pool entry fees.

Current Non-resident Rates

\$8.00 for non-resident children
\$10.00 for non-resident seniors
\$12.00 for non-resident adults

Aquatics Supervisor 2020 Proposed Rates

\$4.00 for non-resident children
\$6.00 for non-resident seniors
\$8.00 for non-resident adults

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Bristol Resident Rates are as follows. No changes proposed at this time

\$1.00 for Bristol children (0-17)

\$1.50 for Bristol seniors (65+)

\$2.00 for Bristol adults (18-64)

I appreciate any support that the Parks Board may have, as this issue becomes so real to our staff when they have to effectively turn away children and families from our pools when they simply cannot afford our fees. This has also resulted in some combative situations that required staff to get police involved. I believe the direction of our department supports our continued efforts of inclusiveness and that this reduction in fees will be more in line with our mission statement.

Sincerely,



Jaimie Clout, CPRP, CPO

Aquatics Supervisor

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