

September 22, 2016

Agenda Item: Aquatic Center Briefing

Item V

Purpose: This briefing is intended to provide the Board an update on administrative actions underway that will deliver on the Board's commitment to open the pool for district purposes.

District Strategic Priority 4.3 and 4.4



Background:

To review,

“...Ms Cruthers moved to authorize the district, with use of consultants, to make sure the pool is functional for the 2016-2017 high school swim team and district purposes with the funding to come out of monies from the settlement with the city. Mr. Gierke seconded the motion. Ms. Cruthers stated she is passionate for swimming and our high school has an excellent coach and swimmers. She stated she is passionate for treating sports fairly; and bussing them out of two for practice is not equitable. Vice Chair Nunn moved to amend the motion by adding “to have the (pool) open for the high school swim team during the swim season and the board re-evaluation their position at the end of the 16-17 season. Mr. Loughridge seconded the motion. Vice Chair Nunn stated he is not comfortable keeping it wide open. He said we are in the business of running school, not pools and would like to give the kids an opportunity; then re-evaluate after the season.

Mr. Gierke said this may limit their ability to bring in extra money, but agrees with the timeline to determine actual costs. Ms. Cruthers agreed with the amended motion, but is concerned (about) phrasing the motion limiting them from hosting meets or having districts at the pool. Mr. Mark Lucht said he supports limiting this to school related activities only. Mr. Loughridge point out the original motion did not limit time, and is not opposed to having other clubs use the facility during the swim season. Chair Neal Lucht stated he is somewhat against the amendment because he believes it is in the motion for 2016-2017 and would like to see opportunity for swim lessons; (he) would hate for the amendment to deny that.

...Ms. Wesley reread the original motion with the amendment. Mr. Gierke moved to amend the amendment by striking the words high school swim team. Ms. Eskridge seconded the motion. Mr. Gierke stated that he would like to see other district programs use the facility during this time and the amendment would limit this use. Mr. Gierke's motion to amend the amended motion passed with five ayes and two nays (Mr. Loughridge and Ms. Cruthers). Chair Neal Lucht stated the board would vote on the original amendment by Vice Chair Nunn. The amendment motion passed unanimously with seven ayes and none opposed.

The motion authorizing the district, with the use of consultants, to make sure the pool is functional for district purposes; funding the process out of the money given to the district from the settlement with the city, and have (the pool) opened during the swim season with the board re-evaluating their position at the end of the 16-17 season passed unanimously with seven ayes and none opposed.”

Included here is the current thinking on the scope of the operating work plan, and the additional HR resources needed to accomplish that work- specifically around Swim Team use and Elementary Swim Lessons. The information presented here was gathered by Ms. Lauree Nelzen and myself in large part from an extended meeting with MHS Swim Coach Melissa Georgesen on September 8 (Thanks, Coach!).

USE:

MHS Swim Team Season

OSAA has set the first day of the season at November 14, and the 4-3-2-1A State Finals are February 17-18.

Prior to the first day of practice (11-14-16), the Pool and the physical plant (building, systems, etc) must be fully functional, and a plan in place and staffed for regular maintenance and upkeep for both the Pool and the facility (building and systems).

Elementary Swim Lessons

Based on past practice, and the Swim Coach's experience, we are thinking of Swim Lessons in the following general context:

- Buses transport each class between the school and the Pool for each lesson
- Lessons will be provided to 1 grade level of students at each elementary school. This will provide 9 classes of students with lessons
- Each lesson will provide 1 class of student with a 45 minute session with instructors and lifeguards
- Each class would be provided with 10 lessons in a Swim Unit (over as close to consecutive days as school calendars permit)
- Several classes' lessons may be offered each day during the same 10-day period, depending on availability of Pool staff (e.g. 2 or 3 or 4 classes running on the hour, etc.)
- The Classroom Teacher travels with and helps supervise the class (not in the water).
- We don't know yet whether the critical actions in the Work Plan below can be completed to begin swim lessons in November. That said, it seems prudent to plan for scheduling the lessons in the latter half of the MHS Swim Season, in January and February.

WORK PLAN OVERVIEW:

A. Facility- Physical Plant and Pool

1. Prepare the physical plant (building and related systems) for use (after having been moth-balled for some time). This will include cleaning the building, inspecting, repairing, and upgrading systems (HVAC, electrical, gas, etc) as needed.
2. Monitor and maintain physical plant day-to-day. This will include all the non-Pool aspects of the building, such as HVAC, electrical, gas, lighting, opening and closing the building, turning lights and HVAC on and off, cleaning and restocking the restrooms and shower areas, etc.
3. Prepare the Pool systems for use (after having been moth-balled for some time). This will include hiring a firm (e.g. Anderson, etc.) to prepare the pool and equipment for use (and certify its readiness).
4. Monitor and maintain the Pool systems. This would include testing and maintaining the water chemistry; and checking all the various systems, restocking chemicals, and responding immediately to any issues that might compromise the use of the Pool.

B. Utilities

1. Coach Georgeson’s recollections of her past experience with the City indicate the utility bill for 12 months of operation was approximately \$55,000. If the Pool is open from November 14 (1st day of MHS Swim Season) to February 17 (1st day of 4-3-2-1A State Finals)- approximately a third of a year, we might expect a utilities bill of approximately \$18,100 not accounting for inflation or variation in use).

C. Personnel Needs

1. Recruit, select and employ Certified Swim Instructors to teach lessons. At least 4-5 instructors in the Pool with each class (typically 25-30 students), with the class divided by ability level.
2. Recruit, select and employ Lifeguards for duty during swim lessons (two at a time), to monitor from the deck.
3. Organized, assign, or hire Custodial staff to clean the areas utilized for lessons (primarily the shower rooms and restrooms).
4. Organize and provide supervision at all times when students are present. With two shower rooms being used for lessons, supervision must be gender-specific.
5. Recruit, select and employ an Aquatics Director to facilitate hiring of Pool staff, scheduling lessons with the schools, arranging transportation, scheduling staff, coordinating with Pool Firm, as well as District Business Office, HR, and Facilities Departments to maintain smooth and safe operations. The role will also include coordinating the Instructors on their instruction, and assisting in grouping students by ability levels for instruction.
6. MHS Swim Coach Georgesen is already a member of the MHS coaching staff, and her salary has been historically paid out of the MHS Athletic Department budget.

Roles (not currently in place)	Approximate Cost per	Needed per lesson	Cost/Lesson	Total cost for 1 class, 10 lessons
Lifeguard	\$9.75/hour	2	19.50/ lesson	\$195.00
Lesson Instructor	\$10.25/hour	4-5 (figured on 5)	\$51.25/lesson	\$512.50
Supervision	?			
Aquatics Director	?			
Contracted Pool Management/ Maintenance Firm	?			
Transportation	?			(figured at 70% reimbursable as curriculum-related)
Custodial	?			
Physical Plant maintenance/repair	?			

D. Other Considerations

- Instructors and Lifeguards must be certified, which requires successfully completing rigorous classes offered by (in our area, primarily) the American Red Cross. Those courses cost money, and require significant time investment for participants to complete. In order to recruit and hire the best Instructors and Lifeguards, and secure their availability on a very part-time basis, it may be in our best interests to offer to pay for their training. Lifeguard certification classes coming up between now and December, in Oregon City, Lake Oswego, and at PSU, are three- to five-day, 30 hour courses that cost between \$115-\$200.

Further, many Lifeguards who work part-time at pools in our region are high school students, who would not be available to work for MRSD during their regular school hours.

- While not included here, there will be other ideas for use of the Pool and facility that would fall within the scope of the Board's intent. As we get a clearer understanding of how this work plan will play out, we will be better able to assess the investments required to pursue those ideas.
- Each of our Elementary Schools has many active Parent Volunteers who may be able to assist with their school's Swim Lessons in some capacity. However, volunteer support would be supplemental to the district's plan, rather than being considered necessary to achieve the Board's outcomes.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Luce