



WILDWOOD

June 16, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Parks Committee Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Update on Virtual Recreation Programs and Events (Wards - All)**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Administration and Public Works Committee Members
Economic Development Committee Members
Sam Anselm, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Kathy Arnett, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Gary Crews, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

As has been recently reported to the City Council on several occasions, since mid-March, the Department of Planning and Parks was forced to cancel a number of events to protect Wildwood's residents, and instead has proceeded with offering virtual programming. The Department is still trying to provide fun and engaging programs during the pandemic, while honoring health guidelines. The list below outlines events offered virtually:

[Completed Events >>>](#)

1. 4-Week Run/Walk/Bike Challenge (over 50 residents logged over 6,000 miles in the four (4) weeks)
2. Fun Is Not Canceled Events – Phase 1
 - a. Week 1 - March 24, 2020 through March 29, 2020 – *Chalk Your Walk*
 - b. Week 2 - March 30, 2020 through April 5, 2020 – *Positive Window Messages*
 - c. Week 3 - April 6, 2020 through April 12, 2020 – *Scavenger Hunt*
 - d. Week 4 - April 13, 2020 through April 19, 2020 – *Coloring Pages*
3. Virtual Arbor Day Run (forty (40) runners participated)
4. Food Drive (St. Louis Area Food Bank)
5. Virtual Community Bingo – two (2) dates completed (May 1 and 22, 2020)

6. Virtual Community Trivia – one (1) date completed (June 10, 2020)

[Ongoing Events >>>](#)

Virtual Senior Yoga

Friday Senior Yoga class continues as an online virtual class. Even though all Senior Recreation Programs have been cancelled through June, Wildwood Yoga and Wellness, the City's partner for Senior Yoga, is providing classes online. Seniors register with the City and then are provided a Zoom link to the class. They can attend the class during its regular time on Fridays or use the link within 24 hours to participate in it. The setup is going well, with over twenty (20) individuals have registered each week.

Virtual Community Bingo

Two (2) virtual Bingo games were held during the month of May, via Zoom. More than one hundred (100) individuals played games of Bingo over the course of the hour on these Friday evenings. There were even dance parties during the breaks. The events were very well received and additional games are planned.

Fun Is Not Canceled – Phase 2

Four (4) additional activities are being provided to the community as a continuation of the 'Fun Is Not Canceled' activities. These activities include:

Week 1 - June 1, 2020 through June 7, 2020

Plant for Hope: Sunflower Seed Planting; video created by City Team Members at Wildwood Community Garden and posted on YouTube Channel.

Week 2 - June 15, 2020 through June 21, 2020

Earth Ninja: Reuse something that would be trash and make it into something useful.

Week 3 - June 22, 2020 through June 28, 2020

Rec in a Bag: Hand out a bag of supplies to make a craft; how-to video will be created.

Week 4 - June 29, 2020 through July 6, 2020

Gold Rock Scavenger Hunt: Golden rocks will be placed in parks and on trails, with clues provided by the City.

[Events In Planning >>>](#)

With the changes in how people recreate and gather expected to continue into the foreseeable future, the Department is working on other virtual events to launch in the upcoming weeks and months, including the following:

1. Online puzzles;
2. Virtual day(s) on the trails for all types of users, i.e. walkers, runners, hikers, bicyclists, and equestrian enthusiasts;
3. Virtual concerts;
4. Cooking challenge; and
5. Guided virtual hikes.

If any of the Committee Members should have any questions or comments regarding this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. A presentation is planned on this matter at tonight's meeting. Thank you for your review and input on this information.