

# **Friends of Taylor Park and Pool**

## **2024 Spring Newsletter**

Hello Friends!

We are looking forward to a wonderful spring and summer in the park and at the pool. The pool will open on June 8<sup>th</sup> and we look forward to a great season of swimming. All the floors in the pool building have been resurfaced and they look amazing. Our organization provided 59% of the funding for that project.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, we gave a presentation to the Advisory Park Board to explain our mission and demonstrate our involvement in maintaining and improving the park and the pool. At the end of the presentation, we provided all those in attendance with a list of our accomplishments over the past thirteen years. We have provided that list below.

One of the issues we have been encouraging the city to pursue is the installation of cameras in the park to reduce the incidences of vandalism. At that March 25<sup>th</sup> Advisory Park Board meeting, we were assured that cameras would be installed in the park this year.

One of our projects for the future is the addition of a slide in the shallow area of the pool. The previous slide was destroyed by vandals. To that end, we have just held an online auction, which was very successful. We are also contemplating selling Taylor Park and Pool T-shirts and sponsoring other fundraising activities in the near future.

Another of our projects is new signage for the native American burial mounds located in the park near the pavilion. We hope to have that done by the end of summer.

We hope to see you in the park and at the pool this spring and summer!

The Board of Directors

### **Accomplishments**

- Raised \$20,000.00 to assist the city in keeping the pool open each summer
- Held fundraisers: blues concerts, sock hop, rummage sale and online auction
- Created and paid for the park History Walk
- Planted the lily and coneflower garden by the park entrance sign
- Contracted for landscaping around the entrance sign
- Purchased poolside chairs and a large umbrella for the seating area
- Purchased games, balls and toys for the family night events

- Purchased life jackets and other swim safety equipment
- Purchased a pace clock for the lap swimmers
- Purchased lane line reels for the lane lines
- Purchased large, inflatable Wibits and weights for the pool
- Paid for increased hours when attendance was low to offset operating costs
- Paid for painting the lobby and concession area
- Paid for half of the floor resurfacing in the lobby area
- Paid for 59% of the floor resurfacing in the shower and changing room areas
- Led refuse and trash pickups in the park
- Sponsored Yoga in the Park
- Created and sponsored Aqua Jog and Aqua Yoga classes
- Sponsored lap swim/water walk contests and end of year parties for these groups
- Sponsored appreciation parties for lifeguards and counter workers
- Sponsored end of school year swims for area schools
- Sponsored swim passes for groups, averaging 800 people per year since 2012 - Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, Recreation Department, Daycares, ARC, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, schools, Gratitude Club, 4H groups, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Fondy Swim Club, Redline Triathlon Club, church groups, Treffert Center, and others