

Skagway Recreation Center (SRC)

P.O. Box 868
Skagway, Alaska 99840
www.skagwayrecreation.org

Date: April 24, 2024

To: Recreation Center Advisory Board
Cc: Brad Ryan, Borough Manager
From: Jason Verhaeghe, SRC Director
Re: Resolutions Governing SRC Fees

During the April 18th meeting, the Assembly passed Resolution No. 24-11R, which updated the SRC fee structure as recommended by the Recreation Board. However, during the discussion, it was noted that other programs overseen by the Rec Center are set by other resolutions. Overall, prices at the SRC are set by three separate municipal resolutions:

- 24-11R sets the membership fees and room rental costs;
- 10-09R sets the rates for the Summer Camp program;
- 12-10R established rates for renting the Upper Lake Cabin.

At the next board meeting, I'd like to request the Recreation Board review and recommend to the Assembly, that these resolutions be consolidated.

I also ask that the board consider raising the rates for Summer Camp program, room rental rates, and Upper Lake Cabin. Summer camp rates have not been increased in 14 years. Although we want to keep costs as low as possible, the current rate does not come close to covering the numerous expenses associated with participating in the various excursions we coordinate. This is doubly-true now that this age group receives free memberships. My preferred outcome is for the board to recommend this rate be set by me as the director. The costs of excursions vary greatly, I propose rates more closely reflect the expenses included each week.

In previous years, ship crews have regularly rented the basketball court. Typically, 15-20 crew members participate each day several days a week. They pay \$30 per hour. If these same individuals purchased day-passes the cost would be \$150-\$200. The rental allows SRC staff to plan for this large group in advance, but the fee is disproportionately low. I suggest creating a summer rental and a winter rental fee structure. This way locals can still benefit from low rates in the off season.

The SRC is already in the early stages of developing a new website for the Upper Lake Cabin which will allow online reservations. A quick search of similar cabins in southeast suggest a price range between \$35-\$75 per night for similar primitive public use cabins. Subjectively, the SRC staff agree more than half of the reservations are from out-of-town visitors. I suggest increasing the price.

Thank you for considering these suggestions,

Jason Verhaeghe
Director - Skagway Recreation Center
Municipality of Skagway