

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Consideration to Remove Daily Resident Usage Fees at Aquatic Center

DATE: 9/10/21

(X) RECOMMENDATION

() POLICY DISCUSSION

BUDGET INFORMATION:

() STATUS REPORT

ANNUAL-

() OTHER

CAPITAL-

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: September 27th, 2021

PURPOSE: To remove the Habersham County Resident fee of \$4 to use Ruby C. Fulbright Aquatic Center gymnasiums and pools.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

Admissions fees are taken at the Ruby C. Fulbright Aquatic Center for usage of gymnasiums and/or pools. Activities patrons may choose to do consist of; swimming in the lap pool, relax/therapy in the warm pool, shoot basketball, or play pickleball in the gymnasiums. The daily rate charged is \$4 for in-county residents and \$6 for out-of-county residents. A wide variety of memberships are offered for purchase in monthly, quarterly, or annual options.

FACTS AND ISSUES:

The request will be to remove the in-county resident daily usage fees for gymnasiums and pools, when not being reserved or rented by a group. The out-of-county fee shall remain. All fees charged to reserve special spaces for groups/associations, rent facilities, or athletic team participation will remain. By removing the daily usage fee, we can attract families with lower incomes and give them the ability to use our indoor facilities.

Annually, the parks and recreation department budgets revenues for admission fees of \$95,000. Over the last four fiscal years, revenues for admissions have been FY 2018 - \$90,492, FY 2019 - \$93,438, FY 2020 - \$60,708 and FY 2021 - \$67,514. COVID-19 was the contributor to the decrease in revenues the last two fiscal years. With many family incomes already struggling to support daily survival needs during the pandemic, the consideration to remove the daily usage fee for Habersham County residents so that they can remain active and healthy will be beneficial to all.

OPTIONS:

1) Approve recommendation to consider removal of daily facility usage fee for in-county residents at the Ruby C Fulbright Aquatic Center beginning January 1st, 2022. All in-county memberships past commencement date will be prorated and refunded.

2) Deny recommendation to consider removal of daily facility usage fee for in-county residents at the Ruby

C Fulbright Aquatic Center beginning January 1st, 2022. All in-county memberships past commencement date will be prorated and refunded.
3) Commission defined alternative

RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION:

Motion to consider removal of daily facility usage fee for in-county residents at the Ruby C Fulbright Aquatic Center beginning January 1st, 2022. All in-county memberships past commencement date will be prorated and refunded.

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Kurt Cooper

Director: Kurt Cooper_____

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:**_____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager
