Parks Advisory Board Meeting

Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park - May 3, 2024

Overview:

Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park sits on a 36-acre site and is one of the six neighborhood parks within the Broward County Municipal Services District (BMSD). Opened in November 1975, the site houses a meeting room (rental facility), computer lab, indoor fitness center, administrative office, two shelters, playground, two lighted full-size basketball courts, outdoor fitness station, 17-acre lake with a paved walking path surrounding it, outdoor restroom, three fishing piers, and a canoe launch with access to the North Fork New River. The park operates seven days a week, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, Saturday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, and Sunday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.





The site is also home to a Public Art and Design project by artist Chisseko Kondowe, who created the "Pillars of the Community," which consists of commemorative mosaic tiles on the columns around the outside of the community center. The tiles represent local community activists who contributed to uplifting and enhancing the Sistrunk Community.

Activities:

The site offers a variety of programming such as a free After-School Program for children ages 6-11 including the provision of a snack and supper meal; the NewGen program, which is open to at-risk youth ages 12-18 that participate in activities involving life skills development, team building, social skills development, and leadership skills development; the Senior Enhancement and Aerobics Program; a public walking group and public wellness outreach through partnerships with local not-for-profit agencies.



The meeting room and shelters are often rented for baby showers, family reunions, and birthday parties. The site hosts approximately 15 to 20 special events per year, including family health fairs, a Black History Month celebration, the Broward County School Board's Family Engagement Resource Fair, Broward Aware Resource Fair, Veteran's Day Family Event, Holiday In the Park, and MLK Day of Service. Throughout the year volunteers from numerous organizations take part in a beautification project of the park as well as monthly waterway clean-up's of the North Fork New River which helps keep the river clean.

Recent Successes:

- Hosted the Survivor Stroll event which brings awareness to the problem of sexual assualt and connected surviviors of sexual assualt with community resources
- Partnered with the Broward County School Board to host the "Family Day: Celebration of Diversity" event with over 2,000 patrons in attendance
- Partnered with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Diaper Bank to start a drive-thru diaper distribution, serving over 700 residents; the diaper drive-thru takes place the first Thursday of each month
- Hosted the park's 15th annual Broward Aware: Protecting our Children Family Fun and Resource Fair with over 500 patrons in attendance

Recent Improvements:

- Solar canopy installation over outdoor basketball courts
- Structural repairs to the medium shelter
- Outdoor restroom upgrades
- Indoor fitness center equipment upgrades



Upcoming Improvements:

- Completion of the surface water study
- Resurfacing of the basketball court
- Replacement of the playground
- New maintenance facility
- New outdoor restroom
- Outdoor amphitheater

