

CITY OF WASILLA

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM NO. 94-17

From:

Mayor Stein

Date:

March 10, 1994

Subject:

Summer Recreation Pilot Program Preliminary Budget

At their March 8 regular meeting the Wasilla Parks and Recreation Commission invited a proposal from Community Schools for a summer recreation program. Community Schools director Gleo Huyck presented the attached indoor gym and outdoor/service program at an estimated cost of \$10,000. The program would employ 1 1/2 full time employment persons at \$7.00 to \$9.00 per hour and would run 10 weeks from June 13, to August 19. Modest fees for participation would off set some of the costs.

Since this is a new program the Parks and Recreation Commission asked that it be presented early to the council so that the concept will not be new at budget time. The Commission believes that this is an excellent means to use sales tax revenue to provide a much appreciated benefit to the greater Wasilla area tax payers.

The summer recreation program would focus on activities for youth and young adults who present the greatest immediate need.

Jana Griffin for the Parks and Recreation Commission

REVIEWED:

John C. Stein, Mayor

IDEAS FOR WASILLA SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The following are only some early ideas for discussion purposes.

Pre-School gym activities with parents. Could follow library Story Hour.

Gym for grades 1-4

Gym for grades 5 and 6

Gym for grades 7 and 8 (possibly on Saturday night also)

High School Basketball (possibly on Saturday night also)

Adult Basketball (Always popular)

High School Volleyball

Adult Volleyball

Family Gym Time

Indoor Track Time

Outdoor/ Service projects (Using Sitka model as a basis)

Possible Staffing

See attached:

\$8495.16

1.5 F.T.E. staff at \$9.29 per hour.

Possible equipment needed

\$1504.84 would be available for equipment and possible replacement of broken school equipment i.e., glass backboard, bent basket hoops etc.

Two Volleyball nets

4 leather Volleyballs

6 Basketballs (Adult)

6 Basketballs (Youth)

Scooters and Pylons for Pre-school

All equipment would only be used for the Wasilla/Community School program. Wasilla Middle School has agreed to supply a storage area.

STAFFING COST FOR WASILLA SUMM	er gym proc	
POSITION	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
	COMM. SCH.	CUSTODIAL
SUPERVISOR	\$1310.00	\$840.00
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WASILLA SUMMER MONITOR 8 hr per day	······································	
WASILLA MONITOR # 2 4 hr per day	\$1820.84	
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SUB-TOTAL SUPPORT STAFF	\$5,090.92	\$0.00
TOTAL ALL STAFF	\$6,400.92	\$840.00
F.I.C.A.	\$92.81	\$12.18
S.B.S.	\$392.38	\$51.49
P.E.R.S.	\$705.38	DNA
HEALTH INSURANCE	\$0.00	DNA
TOTAL STAFF COSTS	\$7,591.49	\$903.67

SCHOOL DISTRICT SITKAACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS & COLLEGES



COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

601 HALIBUT POINT ROAD SITKA, ALASKA 99835

(907) 747-8670

DEVELOPING A SUMMER YOUTH OUTDOOR EDUCATION/SERVICE PROJECTS

Questions to consider and general guidelines:

Who will be the group leader? This could be a re-assignment of duties, a college intern, a volunteer, or staff person. It is important that the group leader is someone the youth respect and look up to, and the person should be knowledgeable in the outdoor environment.

What community resources exist: individuals, outdoor education related agencies, that you could draw on? Make a list and contact these people. Ask them for help in specific areas: i.e., building shelters, outdoor survival, supervising a particular project. Ask for their input and incorporate their ideas in to the project. Some examples of agencies which helped out in Sitka are the Fire Department, Alaska Marine Safety, the Coast Guard, the USFS, and local people who teach classes in outdoor survival.

What agencies do you coordinate with for service projects? In Sitka, we worked with the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, Alaska State Parks, the city parks, and other groups that contacted us. Key questions when setting up projects include: what can we do for you? What projects are appropriate for this age group and number of youth? Will you be helping with supervision and/or providing equipment? How long do you think the project will take? How will you recruit volunteers to help? In our case, parents, older siblings, the local Coast Guard Woodrush, and outdoor experts helped out.

How do you recruit the kids? For SCORE, we did an application process where the youngsters had to fill out a form applying for the program, including a section on why they wanted to be in SCORE. It is set up to be "an honor" to be selected; while very few students are screened out, the application process ensures that the youngsters themselves really want to participate.

The program is advertised through the paper, the school, teachers, counselors, and word of mouth.

Some of the "critical elements for success" in SCORE are providing challenges, encouraging teamwork and peer support, and a sense of achievement and belonging -- plus food and fun. Consider how you can structure the program so that youngsters have fun and get positive reinforcement while they learn. This is essential for the long term success and positive impact of the program.

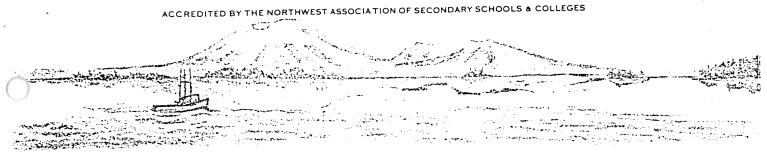
Start small and build on your success. If this is a new project, you may want to start out once or twice per week.

Funding & Support: Ask for donations for the project from local service groups, businesses, or alcohol and drug prevention agencies. Once the program gets started with a small amount of funding, it is easier to apply for grants or ask for additional funding.

Some of the reasons for the program's success included other factors: there are not a lot of summer long programs in our community for this age group. Outdoor activities are very popular with youth in this age group.

These suggestions are provided by Sitka Community Schools, based on the success of the SCORE project. If you are interested in starting a similar program, please call us at 747-8670.

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Summer Camping Outdoor Recreation, Education

This program is open to youth aged 10 - 14; activities include hands-on projects working on local trails, hikes, a camp-out, field trips learning about outdoor survival.

The project is sponsored by Community Schools and will be supervised by Woody Widmark.

WHEN:

June 4 - July 29, 1993 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:45 - 4:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:45 - 4:30 p.m.

Plus an overnight camping trip and special activities

Local state parks and forest service property, WHERE: including Starrigavan and Indian River Trail.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED: There is no fee for this program but youth must fill an application form and make a commitment to stick with the project and attend regularly.

APPLICATION: An application form for SCORE is attached. These applications will be reviewed beginning May 14. Be sure to answer the question: "why do you want to be in SCORE?" as this is very important to us. Applications for SCORE should be turned in by May 21. After this date, applications will be reviewed on a "space available" basis.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO PROVIDE: You will need to provide your own outdoor gear, i.e.,: boots, gloves, rain gear. You will also need to provide sack lunches or snacks and a beverage.

Youth who join the SCORE team, will receive a SCORE shirt, have a pizza party after projects are completed, and learn a lot about local trails and outdoor survival.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AT 747-8670.

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Entertainment TV Schedules The Arts

Friday, July 31, 1992

Kids Score High in Summertime Program

By RUDY BRUEGGEMANN
Sentinel Staff Writer
This summer 30 Sitkan
youths dug ditches, repaired
trails and cleaned up at state and
national parks and U.S. Forest Service land through a pilot Sitka Community School program called Summer Camp Outdoor Recreation and Education.

The 12 girls and 18 boys worked four hours a day, three times a week on projects supervised by adult volunteers and Woody Widmark, a Community School field supervisor who one SCORE recruit said "is the best counselor I've had."

What did some of the 10- to 14-year-olds think of their work?

"It's awesome," said an en-thusiastic SCORE participant Mickey Rowlett, 11. "This is the best summer I've ever had. whenever we do things.

Rowlett said he met a lot of friends through SCORE. His favorite project was adding sever-

al tons of gravel around the totem poles at Sitka National Historical Park.

Daisy Ledford, 10, made a lot of friends too.

"It was fun," she said. "I liked working and going out in the woods.'

Daisy said she enjoyed restoring trails at Old Sitka, where the SCORE crew laid down new wood chips on heavily used trails. She also enjoyed building an emergency shelter during an

an emergency shelter during an outdoor survival skills session led by Mike LaGuire.

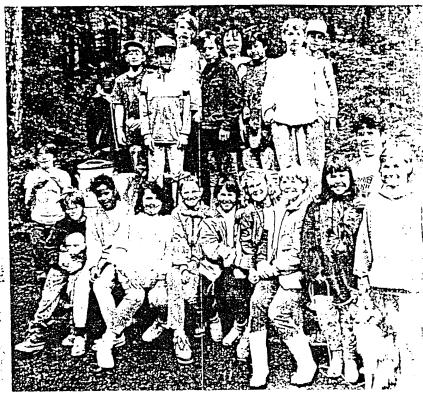
"I'm glad for SCORE because I'm usually bored in the summer," said Daisy, who admitted she would have been in the house watching television if not for SCORE. "I'll do it next summer." summer.

Community School Director Barbara Soha said Mickey and We'd go around fixing national Daisy typified the energetic parks. We get special snacks, SCORE kids who threw themselves into their tasks.

The 30 SCORE participants worked at Sitka National Historical Park, Old Sitka, Halibut



SCORE participant hauls gravel. (Sentinel photo)



SCORE youngsters take a break. (Sentinel photo by James Poulson)

Point Recreation Area and Starrigavan Campground.

"It gives them something positive to do with their time," Soha said. "They're not going to do it unless they're having

SCORE seems to have found the balance between work and play. Not one of the 30 dropped

Soha said that at a May meeting with parents all the SCORE members committed themselves to staying on the entire summer. Wheelbarrow races, SCORE Tshirts and pizza parties during the summer kept it an exciting

social program.

SCORE began June 8 and will finish in August. It's planned for once a week in the fall.

Soha said Community School was looking for a summer program targeted for kids 10-14.
"That's a real important age

group to offer programs for," she said. "We thought an outdoor oriented project for this age group would work. They're not old enough to (have jobs). They need structured activi-

Soha turned to the Sitka Alliance for Health, which had \$20,000 in grant money set aside for youth drug intervention programs.

Soha applied to the alliance and received a \$1,500 grant because SCORE offered what appeared to be an ideal drug-free alternative for Sitkan youths.

To pay its way, SCORE also

raised several hundred dollars through two car washes.

McDonald's Restaurant, Sitka Northern Sales and Sea Mart each contributed as well, while Prewitt Enterprises' Island Bus Co. transported the kids without

charge.
"It's been a fun-filled two months," remarked Widmark, who oversees the activities. "We learned to work together. The kids did a lot of community service work."

Curt Ledford, a training coordinator for the Sitka Alliance for Health, said SCORE was a good use of his agency's designated grant moncy.

"This was a perfect project," he said, praising SCORE's coordination of several work projects that would have been left undone this summer.

"We're just 100 percent favor of it," he said. "It w one of the neatest youth proje I've seen around here. The k

just had a great time."

Coast Guard personnel, p ents, older brothers and sist and teachers volunteered th free time to make it work.

SCORE gave the "Mom the Year" award to Kim Cre who changed her work sched to start at 6 a.m. so she co join her children, Kristy Amy, at SCORE in the af

noons.
"Without her the programs succe wouldn't have been as succe ful as it was," said Widmark Next year Community Scl

will coordinate similar hands service programs for Sitt youths. If grant money from alliance is available, Soha's

she will apply.

She called SCORE a fix ly-smart program that can of tinue to fill a niche for Sitka the kids it serves.

'If some other program done this, there's no way could have done this as ch ly," she said.

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