


June 30, 2014

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Scott C. Stiles, Interim City Manager 

SUBJECT: Follow Up Memo to Emergency Incident at CRC Bush Pool

As a follow up to the June 18, 2014 informational memo, attached is the report I received this morning from the Recreation Director Chris Bigham. It includes the incident report from the tragic June 18th drowning, as well as information about modifications being made and reviewed by the Cincinnati Recreation Commission related to pool policies and procedures. As information becomes available we will continue to keep you informed about this matter.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to the family and friends of Tyrell Wyche during this most difficult time.

This report is for information purposes only. No action of the City Council is required.

Attachment: CRC Report

DATE: June 30, 2014
TO: Scott Stiles, Interim City Manager
FROM: Christopher A. Bigham, Recreation Director
SUBJECT: Emergency Incident at Bush Pool

CRC has finished the internal investigation related to the emergency incident at Bush Pool in Walnut Hills that occurred on June 18, 2014. The incident report and detailed description of the incident are attached.

Lifeguards were at their proper positions when the incident occurred. Lifeguards have current lifeguard certifications, current CPR for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid certification, 2014 skills review, completed on site training and participated in weekly drills at the pool.

The Hamilton County Coroner's Office provided a verbal preliminary statement to the Law Department that the death was accidental. The Cincinnati Police Department has advised CRC there will be no further police investigation.

Following any significant accident at a CRC facility, CRC reviews policies and procedures to determine if changes should be made. CRC's next step will be to evaluate those policies and procedures related to pool operations. There was a council motion on Tuesday, June 24 to increase the minimum unsupervised swimming age to 11 years old.

CRC is contracting with the Redwoods Group to provide an audit of CRC's policies and procedures related to the aquatics program. The audit will begin this week and my goal is to have recommendations for the Recreation Commission meeting on July 15th.

In the meantime and effective immediately, I am implementing the following changes at our city pools:

Children ages 7-11 must be accompanied and supervised by a parent, legal guardian or adult 18 or older during open swim time at all city pools.

To clarify, children ages 7-11 cannot participate in open swim times at CRC pools without an adult. Children enrolled in swim lessons and CRC aquatic programs can still participate without the parent present if parent has registered and authorized their child be enrolled in program. Children ages 7-11 who are in a CRC day camp are actively supervised by CRC day camp staff that are 18 or older so can continue to swim during open swim.

The family is in our thoughts and prayers and CRC is heartbroken over this tragic accident.

Attachments (2):

CRC Incident Report June 18, 2014
FYI Memo June 20, 2014



Cincinnati Recreation Commission Incident Report

This report is used to document incidents occurring at Recreation Commission facilities and/or incidents involving Recreation Commission employees, participants, volunteers, etc. **Note:** The **Report of Accidents to Participants** or the **Supervisor's Investigation of Employee Injury** is required when the incident results in an injury.

Date of Incident: Wednesday, 6-18-14 Time of Incident: approximately 7:00 P.M.

Center/Facility Name: Bush Pool Specific Location: Deep End

Please check categories related to the incident:

- vandalism building access security concern theft safety/health hazard
- police action publicity concern participant/parent concern accident/injury
- other (explain) _____

Detailed Description of Incident:

At the time of the incident, there were approximately 10 swimmers in the deep end of the pool and approximately 25 swimmers in the shallow end of the pool and some patrons on deck. The wading pool was closed and was not open to swimmers. There were 7 staff on duty at the time of the incident, an assistant pool manager, 4 lifeguards, a gate monitor and a pool monitor. Lifeguards were in all 3 lifeguard chairs with rescue tubes and were in uniform with hip packs containing pocket masks.

Lifeguard D was in on duty station (on break) in the deep end swimming with kids when he was alerted by a child that there was someone at the bottom of the pool. Lifeguard D immediately swam down and brought the victim to the surface and called for assistance, "Passive victim, I need help". Lifeguard B triple whistled from chair 2 and evacuated swimmers from the deep end. Lifeguard C in chair 3 evacuated swimmers from the shallow end of the pool. Lifeguard D took the victim to the pool side in the corner by the diving board. The closest lifeguard in chair 1, Lifeguard A got down and grabbed the pullout backboard from the pool house wall, which was right by the deep end and went to get the victim out. A bystander, an adult woman had already grabbed the victim's arm and was pulling the victim from the pool. Lifeguard A assisted in pulling the victim out and began assessing vitals. Lifeguard A found no pulse, no breathing. Lifeguard A administered rescue breaths and they did not go in, Lifeguard A then began chest compressions. Lifeguard D went and alerted the Assistant Pool Manager, who was the manager on duty, and the Assistant Pool Manager assisted with Two Rescuer CPR. Lifeguard D called 911 and went to lead EMS to the scene. The Assistant Pool Manager and Lifeguard A reported doing about 4 cycles of two rescuer, compressions and breaths, then turning the victim on his side when fluids and candy came out. They then continued CPR approximately 3 to 4 more cycles until EMS arrived and took over. They reported that EMS applied an AED but did not shock. There was a reported pulse, but no breathing when the EMS transported the victim to Children's hospital.

Staff Action / Outcome / Status:

Did incident involve police response/report? Yes No

If "Yes", please provide name and phone number of police officer involved:

Officer Name: C. Richter, T Wells, and Sgt. Dan McShane S703. They are Phone: 569-8600
from District 4, 4150 Reading Rd.

Please identify CRC staff member(s) and/or others who witnessed the incident and their contact information:

Name: an unknown adult woman assisted pulling victim onto the pool deck by the deep end of the pool Phone: _____
Name: _____ Phone: _____
Name: _____ Phone: _____
CRC staff completing report: Jincey Yemaya Phone: 352-4000

SAC: _____ signature/date _____ signature/date

Forward completed forms to the Office of the Director.

June 20, 2014

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Scott C. Stiles, Interim City Manager 

SUBJECT: Emergency Incident at CRC Bush Pool on June 18, 2014

On Wednesday, June 18, 2014, at approximately 7:00 p.m., at the Recreation Commission's Bush Pool in Walnut Hills, there was a tragic incident involving a 10-year-old child who was removed from the pool in a non-responsive state by Recreation Department lifeguards. The lifeguards immediately administered CPR per procedure, and an emergency 911 call was simultaneously made by Recreation staff. The child was transported to Children's Hospital by City of Cincinnati EMS responders. The Cincinnati Police Department was also alerted, and officers were at the scene of the accident, per procedure.

The media has reported that the child remains on life support and in critical condition at Children's Hospital. The thoughts and prayers of the Recreation staff and all City staff are with the child and his family. We are all deeply saddened by the events that transpired.

At this time, the Recreation Department is conducting its post-accident investigation and a report will be issued by the Recreation Department within the next few days. I was alerted to the incident on Wednesday evening, and I have been advised that the appropriate number of lifeguards were present at Bush Pool and were on-station at the time of the incident. Despite the fact that the City's Recreation Commission lifeguards are well trained, it is a very unfortunate fact that the risk of loss of life is always present in any type of aquatic environment.

The City Manager's Office and the Recreation Department will provide further updates on this matter as soon as additional information becomes available. I know that all of you join me in sending our thoughts and prayers to the child and his family during this very difficult time.

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cc: Terry Nestor, Interim City Solicitor 