



DATE: 5 January 2015

AGENDA ITEM # 4

TO: Senior Commission

FROM: Peggy Ford, Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Staff Update on Grant Park Program

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Report

BACKGROUND

At the November 3, 2014 Senior Commission meeting, Staff and volunteers updated the Commission on the latest happenings and concerns with the new Senior Program at Grant Park.

DISCUSSION

Volunteers shared some concerns about moving equipment in and out of the designated area. Staff will help with responsibility of moving equipment to take the heavy burden off those volunteers who may have some difficulty in moving carts back and forth.

Other concerns were the temperature of the rooms. As a result, staff now arrives 1-2 hours before the program begins and turns on the heat to warm up the room in time for opening.

In addition, volunteers voiced concerns regarding sound in the Grant Multipurpose room. It is difficult to hear when many people are talking at once. Staff has added additional area rugs to deaden the excess sound, but will continue to look at ways to alleviate the problem.

Lastly, volunteers voiced concerns about what criteria will be used to determine if the pilot program continues after its designated ending time – February 25, 2015. Staff will look at the following criteria in order to determine if the program merits continuation and additional City support. Criteria to review will be: Number of members, number of return visits by members, number of people who visit the center, staff time and costs associated with the program along with continued interest overall. Other criteria may come up as the pilot continues through the end of February, 2015

Staff and volunteers are working together to address issues as they arise and will continue to keep the Senior Commission informed on latest developments concerning the pilot program.

