

Fireworks Highlight Sea Isle Recreation

By JOE HART

SEA ISLE CITY — The recreation commission had kudos for last year's services and events and planned for future programs in the city.

In a Jan. 9 meeting, City Commissioner Angela Dalrymple thanked the commission for "a wonderful calendar of events last year finishing with the spectacular fireworks display on New Years Eve."

Turnout was great for the display which drew 442 participants and ran with the help of 20 volunteers.

The celebration brought to a close a holiday season that included a 14-entry house lighting contest, a Santa's calling event with 64 children and four volunteers and a holiday dance with 32 students and four volunteers.

The commission also ran aerobics, tot-time, basketball, Irish step dancing, yoga, hockey, scrap-booking and wrestling programs just during the month of December.

Throughout the year the commission also runs many sports and activity camps, exercise classes and participates in a number of athletic leagues.

Dalrymple thanked recreation director Vicki Feehey, her staff and the many volunteers who made the programs so successful.

Upcoming events the

commission wanted to promote were the Chili Festival for which they need judges and the senior Sit and Be Fit program that is already getting numerous requests for information.

As far as public works, the city is in the final stages of the Dealy Field improvement project.

"Despite some drainage and lighting delays, the project is on schedule to

open before the summer season with the tennis courts done by June 1," said Dalrymple.

She also said it looked like there would be a surplus of funding from the project and expressed her desire to use it on safety equipment for the JFK Boulevard playground.

"Funding for these programs could become tighter especially with

Corzine's budget plan not to increase spending more than four percent," said Avalon Business Administrator and commission member Andrew Bednarek.

"It's going to be a tough year," he continued, "difficult choices will have to be made."

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