

July 2024

Update on Betty Clark Pool Renovation

The following is an update on the status of the JCC's Saving the Betty Clark Pool renovation.

Earlier this week, a communication went out to a group of JCC members who brought to us concerns over what they were hearing about the status of the pool project. It served to address the real status of the pool, and dispel several rumors they were hearing. We wanted to share this communication (below) with our entire membership, and add other information.

“Last week our contractor received the electrical permit needed to finish the important work of making sure all metal associated with the pool is bonded. Since then, a third-party inspector has come in to certify the bonding. We are currently waiting for a plumbing permit to repair minor plumbing leaks in the filter room and for a pump/motor repair. The pump and motor repair were not part of the original scope of work, but rather work that was found when restarting the pool after the long closure. We believe we are down to the final items of work and all vendors are lined up and ready to complete the work as soon as they are able to.

The pool has not failed any inspection, the JCC has not been fined, and there are no pending lawsuits associated with the work of the pool. The pool will reopen as soon as all work is complete, and the pool is permitted to open. As soon as we reach that point several email notifications, website, and app updates will be sent out to notify members of the reopening, but feel free to check back anytime. “

We are aiming to have all the work finished and the pool reopened such that there is no gap in the JCC's aquatics function come the end of summer and the closing of the outdoor pool. That is our goal. We have less control over that timeline now given the necessary involvement of city officials to inspect the work and issue final permits for the reopening. The work that remains once the plumbing permit is received seems small and should be resolved quickly. Once that occurs, final inspections will take place.

At about the same time the work went into the inspection phase, we received word the JCC was awarded the final piece of the funding equation, a \$225,000 grant from the County ARPA grant program. Thank you Albany County! Between that and New York state funding, the private contributions to the effort by many of you, and the JCC's contribution of owner equity, all the funding required for this first phase of the Betty Clark pool renovation is complete. And the state's NY Swims initiative holds the potential and promise for further funding of a second phase of the repair involving the pool's pump and filter room. But not for a while to allow people to re-enjoy the pool.

Once we have a firmer idea of when the pool can reopen, a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held to recognize and thank our donors to the effort. Stay tuned.