Splish-splash... Seneca eyes water park

City officials to study feasibility

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SENECA — City officials want to make a splash with kids, teens and parents by bringing a water park to town.

Seneca Mayor Pro-Tem Ronnie O'Kelley said Friday that he'd be heading a committee whose only goal is to make such a fun attraction happen.

O' Kelley promoted the idea a day after Mayor Dan Alexander selected him to chair a council committee to study the feasibility of a water park in the city.

City officials took the unpopular decision last year of closing the town's public swimming pool off North Pine Street near the Gignilliat Community Center.

O' Kelley said the idea of closing the pool never excited him or the mayor, but knew they had to face the reality that the more than 60-year-old facility had become a drain. He said the pool cost more to operate than what it was bringing in.



O'Kelley

After attending state's Municipal Association annual meeting in Hilton Head two weeks ago, O' Kelley returned fired up with the water park idea.

"It's personal for me," O' Kelley said. "Kids need something to do during the summer."

O' Kelley said he's taken his own young children to splash pools in other areas and he's sure the idea would fly in Seneca, even if done at a smaller scale.

"We'll see what we could do for next summer," he said.

O' Kelley said his committee would begin meeting after the long holiday weekend.

"We'll find the funds to make it happen..." he added. "Where there's a will there's a way.

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