



CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust St, Dover, NH, Room 236
Meeting Date: Monday, September 21, 2020
Meeting Time: 7:00pm

DRAFT

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Roll Call: Jess Bonello, Pat Campbell, Christophe Cloitre, Tim Paiva, Suzanne Petersen (citizen volunteer), David Tompkins

City Personnel Present: Gary Bannon, Kelsey Boese, John O'Connor (city council liaison)

Members Absent: Casandra Lanton,

Approval of Agenda: n/a

Approval of Minutes from July 20, 2020:

Tim Paiva made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jess Bonello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizens' Forum:

- Elizabeth Tong commended the staff on the re-opening and expressed appreciation for access to the pool. She noted concerns that the schedule is at a bottle neck and it is increasingly difficult to reserve a time slot.
- Margaret Kelley noted significant improvements in facility management and gratitude to have the pool. She was concerned with lack of access due to the sign-up process.

Reports:

Recreation Director, Gary:

- The recreation department is doing all it can to be accessible to the public within the confines of Covid regulations. Many towns are not able to accommodate patrons at this time.
- The summer went as well as it could.
- Staffing is sufficient with both lifeguards and cleaning personnel.

Aquatics Facility Program Supervisory, Kelsey:

- A few new life guards have been hired.
- Life guard classes have been full.

Long-range Planning:

Nothing new to report.



CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust St, Dover, NH, Room 236
Meeting Date: Monday, September 21, 2020
Meeting Time: 7:00pm

Finance and Budget:

The fiscal year ended mostly on track; the net cost to the city was about \$20,000 more than last year. The inability to offer lessons and the consequential financial impact to the budget will continue into the foreseeable future.

Old Business:

Jenny Thompson Pool Renovation Plan Update:

- The city council approved budgeting for a new deck, pool liner and covers at the outdoor pool. Proposals for planning will begin soon with a targeted date of late summer 2022 to be completed.
- The old fence and cooling radiator have been removed in the area adjacent to the Indoor Pool and the area is being repurposed as an activity area for the NH Children's Museum.

New Business:

Covid-19 Impacts to Operations Update:

- The future is still far from predictable and we will need to rely on State and City guidance and be flexible.
- Lessons will be delayed indefinitely until it is safe for instructors to be in close proximity to students.

Pool Scheduling System Update:

- Seacoast Swim Association and the Great Bay Masters are using the pool currently.
- The likelihood of high school swim teams' using the pool this season seems low.
- The 2:15 – 3:30 rec swim time on Tuesday and Thursday currently precludes use by middle and high school kids due to their later school day. Students should be encouraged to make use of the Saturday rec swim time from 2:00 to 4:00.
- Lap swim sign-up is not working for some patrons. Most of the 324 available slots filled within an hour of being posted. Swimmers who get in the door notice that some lanes are left empty despite a completely filled schedule. No-shows are being tracked, but no clear patterns are emerging. The staff members are handling many sign-ups by phone for people who have computer issues. Many suggestions for improving access and fairness were brought forth and discussed. Creating a prioritization ranking system was discussed. Paying a small fee for some extra for management services on the sign-up platform was suggested. A request was made to allow an alternate to sign up on a waiting list in the event of a no-show.

Tim Paiva made a motion to request that all swimmers sign up for not more than 3 sessions per week to help alleviate access issues. Pat Campbell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust St, Dover, NH, Room 236
Meeting Date: Monday, September 21, 2020
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

Other:

Tim Paiva thanked the pool managers and staff for working hard to enable the only swim meet held this summer in New England to take place at the Jenny Thompson Pool.

Adjournment:

Pat Campbell made a motion to adjourn. Jess Bonello seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 8:08.