



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, November 16, 2020
Meeting Time: 7:00pm

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

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

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

Members Absent: Casandra Lanton, David Tompkins (Excused)

Approval of Agenda: n/a

Approval of Minutes from September 21, 2020:

Pat Campbell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Jess Bonello seconded. Minutes accepted unanimously.

Citizens' Forum: n/a

Reports:

Recreation Director Gary Bannon:

- Recreation programs are as busy as space and protocols allow.
- The indoor pool experienced a heating issue this fall, but it was easily fixed with a system reset.
- The wavy base for the whale's tail sculpture has been installed. It hides the metal framework and completes the effect of the whale's dive into the pool building.
- Lighting for the whale's tail and the youth artwork on the street side of the building is in process.
- Vandals have damaged the exterior and insulation of the garage doors that separate the pool from the playground. Insurance will cover replacement of the custom-made doors. The doors ultimately will be modified or replaced to create a solarium, but now might be a good time to consider options to allow more natural light into the pool. Gary welcomes suggestions.
- The city plans to move the River Street skate park equipment to Guppy Park. The most probable location will be on the relatively flat field above the outdoor pool pavilion. Oak Street is slated for major improvements, including a wider bridge over the railroad tracks, sidewalks, and a bicycle lane. Having an entrance off Oak Street would help to reduce traffic around the pool and ice arenas.

Aquatics Facility Program Supervisor Kelsey Boese:

- Things are running well at the indoor pool.
- A new cancellation policy is now in effect: Swimmers must provide at least 3 hours' advance notice of a cancellation or no-show. Swimmers who fail to do this three times will not be allowed to make a reservation for 2 weeks.



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- Issues with extra hot water in showers following toilet flushes were investigated, but staff was unable to confirm.
- A request was made for additional signage reminding patrons and staff to wear a mask at all times when not in the pool.
- Staff members who travel outside of New England must quarantine for two weeks upon their return to Dover, but it is not clear if patrons have the same obligation. Staff will investigate if that is a requirement now from the State as guidance has changed several times. Should a similar policy for patrons be posted for the holiday season? The consensus was yes. Perhaps staff can add that question to the required entry questions.

Long-range Planning: n/a

Finance and Budget:

Revenue is lower than usual due to the pandemic and expenses for Covid-related purchases are up slightly. Gary will be creating the FV2022 proposed budget in the coming weeks. The city has applied for a Loss of Revenue Grant from the state; no word yet.

Old Business:

Pool Schedule Updates:

Four high school swim teams will be using the pool for practice starting December 14. Each team will be limited to 2 hours/week, down from the usual 5 hours /week. No competitions will be allowed. Coaches will be trained on coordinating lane use to limit the risk of spreading the virus.

Jenny Thompson Pool Renovation Plan Update:

Gary is working with the city project manager to post the project and bidding process.

New Business:

Uncertainty:

- Nobody can predict the number of Covid cases or the city or state response.
- As a pre-emptive safety measure, should the pool be closed for a period after each of the holidays? That decision would come from the EMD.
- Under normal circumstances, pool closures due to inclement weather match the public school cancellation policy. With kids' learning from home this fall, a different arrangement for pool closure might be needed. A request was made to leave a message on the pool phone number announcing closures.

Adjournment:

Tim Paiva made a motion to adjourn. Pat Campbell seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57.