

CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Dover Indoor Pool Meeting Room, 6 Henry Law Ave, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: Monday, July 19, 2021
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

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

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

City Personnel Present: Gary Bannon, Erika Friedman

Members Absent: John O'Connor (city council liaison) excused

Approval of Agenda: n/a

Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2021:

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

Citizens' Forum: n/a

Reports:

Recreation Director Gary Bannon:

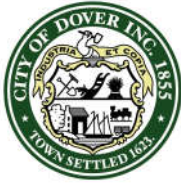
- The Recreation Department has been busy with numbers close to pre-pandemic levels. Where numbers are lower, this has been by design to limit potential exposures.
- Staffing continues to be a challenge with college-bound life-guards and swim team conflicts.
- The budget was approved by the city council in June.
- Capital improvements budgeting for 6 years out is due this week.
- The garage door replacements still have not arrived.
- The Indoor Pool will shut down for two weeks at the end of summer for annual maintenance.

Erika Friedman:

- Technology and mechanical operations at both pools are running smoothly.
- The controller systems at both pools have been linked to the internet so that technicians have much better remote control.
- The biggest impediment right now is a shortage of lesson time and instructors.

Long-range Planning:

- A new storage shed at the outdoor pool seems unlikely this year due to multiple issues with bidding and costs.



CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Regular Meeting
Meeting Location:	Dover Indoor Pool Meeting Room, 6 Henry Law Ave, Dover, NH
Meeting Date:	Monday, July 19, 2021
Meeting Time:	7:00pm

Finance and Budget:

- FY 2021 closed with a net cost to the city of \$371,000. This is about \$70,000 greater than normal, but federal pandemic relief will probably lower the impact of this significantly in the City's General Fund account.

Summer Schedule Updates and Pool Lane Usage Report:

- The summer indoor pool schedule cannot accommodate weekends or time after 1:00 Monday through Friday.
- Probably due to unusually wet weather this summer, the indoor pool is busier than the outside pool for lap swimming. Overall volume is down compared to pre-pandemic levels. The indoor pool is limited to three patrons per lane and the outdoor pool is limited to four people per lane. Most patrons seem to be able to get swim time.
- Fall programming will probably be back to normal and, with luck, include swim lessons.
- The Mighty Seals will return.
- There is a strong demand for adult lessons. Scheduling will be tight.

Jenny Thompson Pool Renovation Plan Update:

- Gary is working with the city project manager to post the project and bidding process.
- The new goal is for work in 2022

New business:

Swim Meet Report: n/a

JTP Storage Building Plans:

See Reports Long Range Planning

Fall Programs and Schedule Status:

See Old Business Summer Schedule Updates and Pool Lane Usage Report

Facility Proposal Discussion - The future of Aquatics in Dover:

- Somersworth and Portsmouth are trying to add new recreational facilities, including indoor fields and possibly an ice arena. Dover already has good facilities, but we do not want to fall behind in looking to the future. Aquatics is strong in Dover and conversations are taking shape to go bolder and bigger.
- Does Dover want to revisit the Jenny Thompson Aquatic Center concept?
- Does Dover want to contract with Edge Sports Group (a private entity from Massachusetts) to build a large competition facility closer to the highway or other place with better traffic access and visibility? This would be co-managed by Edge and Dover. Two designs are being considered.



CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Dover Indoor Pool Meeting Room, 6 Henry Law Ave, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: Monday, July 19, 2021
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

- Dover needs to do a needs assessment: What are the biggest demands for use? What location serves the most needs? What are the costs versus the projected expenses?
- As an alternative, would the demand for lesson space and time be better served by a new, smaller complex to complement existing facilities?

Other:

- Jessica Parratto, who grew up in Dover, will be competing as a diver in the Olympics this summer.
- A request was made to encourage lifeguards to manage lanes when swimmers of varying abilities attempt to share a lane. Slow swimmers and fast swimmers should not be sharing a lane.

Adjournment:

Tim Paiva made a motion to adjourn. Christophe Cloitre seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.