



CITY OF DOVER

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust Street, Dover, NH 03820,
Room 224
Meeting Date: Monday, October 11, 2021
Meeting Time: **6:00pm**

Call to order at 6:00pm

Roll Call

Present: David Beaulieu(Secretary), Gary Bannon (Director of Recreation), Rick Mikulis(vice-chair), Elizabeth Fisher,(Alternate); Shayna Sylvia, Alicia Rooney(Alternate), Brian Murphy

Absent: Brandy Maas, Heather Twombly (Chair) excused, John O'Connor (City Council Liaison) excused, Craig Bartle excused, Jon-Erik Tryggstad (Alternate) excused, Shellie Lemelin excused, Melanie Burger excused.

Approval of Minutes for Sept 13, 2021

Approved by Beth Fisher; Seconded by Brian Murphy

Citizens Forum: None

Reports:

Advisory Board:

- Shayna noted work continues to install benches on a portion of the Community Trail. Also reviewing appropriate art for the trail.
- Beth noted the Rotary Club is doing a Willand Pond trail clean up on Saturday.

Recreation Director, Gary Bannon

- As fall activities pick-up, like Rec Basketball, Covid policies at this point seem to vary from school to school between teams & programs. Working with the School Department to unify the protocols between the School Department and Recreation Department.
- Program sign-ups are coming soon & a more consistent rule may help registration decisions. Currently each program (not school related) can make their own regulations.
- City looking at all available spaces for programs. If certain school spaces are unavailable & program sites need to be shifted back to McConnell it could create conflicts.
- Softball at Guppy Field went well. A new scoreboard is being prepared for installation.
- City used the Guppy Park Softball Field parking lot as a lay-down area for the water main project. Work in that area should be completed by mid-November.



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Old Business:

Amanda Howard Park Project Update:

- Site work was finished and the playground equipment installed along with woodchip bedding.
- Coordinating with SUR to bring the gazebo to the site.
- Fencing will be installed at the lower end of the property to complete the site.

Skate Park Update:

- Heavy equipment is working onsite and almost done for the winter.
- Upon completion, primary access will be from the Park & Ride lot, with additional parking and an access trail from the arena lot.
- Urban tree will trim and thin out trees along Oak Street side to improve visibility.
- The park developer will begin early next summer; pending how busy there are.
- There are a few interested parties considering purchasing the existing half-pipe at the River Street Park.
- Portsmouth is in the early stages of a park design off Greenland Road from the same company we are using.

Olympian Recognition Signs Discussion:

- Advisory board requesting member feedback for recommended qualification status. Will have a whiteboard suggestion board at November meeting. Hope to have complete & signs installed by spring.
- Shayna placed a few calls to other states requesting feedback on how they handled it.

Waterfront Park/Paddle Sports and Public Access Status:

- Work continues to incorporate public space & boathouse into developers design.
- Paddle sport access was discussed at an Oct 6th meeting of CWDAC Park Sub-Committee as well as current clubs that use the site now.
- Discussion will continue when the Butler Building needs to be removed and how the site will function at project completion.
- Great Bay Rowing, UNH Crew, Berwick Academy, and Northeast Passage were hoping to gain space in the proposed Building F. It does not appear there would be sufficient space in that building for current & future needs of the club.
- Ideally a new building can be incorporated into the development plans to support the future needs of the many clubs that currently use that waterfront.



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New Business:

Fall and Winter Program Status:

- Fall & Winter program offerings are being planned to offer as much as possible. Students really need these type of outlets as the community works to move past the pandemic. Some students are still struggling.
- McConnell Center Recreation and Senior Center are proceeding, as more options open & become available. Senior Center is back to regional bus trips. Hoping larger trips including longer distance travel options will resume soon.

CIP Projects:

- The Primary project for consideration is the Garrison Hill Park. \$320K Budget. Project would include an enhancement to the current tower built in 1993. Also potential changes could be an elevated stage in addition to tree trimming and work done on the winter sports area.
- Also on the list for consideration is out years are Applevale Park and Morningside Park.

Misc Projects:

- The Dog Park will rebid the 4-post shelter to see if we can get one installed by the spring.
- The Tower at Henry Law Park will be repaired as soon as the replacement parts arrive which should be soon due to the work the Fire Department had to do to remove an injured person in September.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Shayna Sylvia. Motion was 2nd by Brian Murphy.
Vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Next Meeting will be November 8th

Respectfully submitted,
David Beaulieu