



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, June 12, 2023
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), Dennis Shanahan (City Council Liaison), Heather Twombly (Chair), Brian Murphy, Shellie Lemelin

Absent: Alicia Rooney, John O'Connor, Melanie Burger

Approval of Minutes for May 8, 2023

Approved by Shellie Lemelin; Seconded by Rick Mikulis

Public Forum:

None

Reports:

Advisory Board:

- Rick noted the Graffiti Committee presented recommendations to the Council. At this conclusion, the committee is technically disbanded until a formal recommissioning which is expected.
- Heather noted the Willand Pond Community Trail has a section of bridge where several composite deck boards are missing. Gary will pass along the message to the Facilities Directors of Dover & Somersworth.
- Brian mentioned he attended an event in Newmarket & saw their new water park/splash pad type feature. Noted it was impressive & would be of interest if Dover could do something similar in the future.

Recreation Director, Gary Bannon

- Staffing positions have been filled & summer programs booked quickly. Some in just minutes through the online portal. A summer music theater program is being brought back under the recreation umbrella.
- Expanding programs for the future has been discussed. Some necessities for expansion would be program locations, increased staff, and additional modes of transportation. The Recreation Masterplan may need to be reviewed to address growing demand.
- City's Fiscal year ends June 30th.
- CIP process getting underway. Considering project options such as Rotary Pavilion improvements or possibly Henry Law Shelters.
- Old Half Pipe Ramp from Skate Park has been placed on Surplus Marketplace site.



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Old Business:

Skate Park Project Update:

- The skate park contractor is set to begin.
- Fencing going up by the end of this week in preparation.
- Light poles are up & electrical contractor preparing to make connections to power feed.
- Contractor building the new Rotary Shelter at the site will need to coordinate around the site work.
- A grand opening ceremony is being discussed for around September.

Jenny Thompson Pool Project and Access:

- Original funding amount set aside for improvements was \$500,000. After Weston & Sampson Engineering review, today's cost to complete a full renovation was \$3.9M. That was reduced closer to \$1.9M after review & cuts. Options still being considered for best cost effective, phased approach to the improvements. City is also applying for a funding grant.
- Patches were completed & pool filled just in time for initial swim meet for this summer.
- Pool is almost 45 years old & has survived long beyond the expected lifespan.

Community Pavilion Design & Park Status:

- CJ Architects continuing to revise building design.
- The structure will be mostly open walled with bathrooms.
- Design had to work within the rules of the State \$500,000 grant which disallows the space to be deemed a 'meeting room'.
- Funding was limited to build a more enclosed space.

Dover 400th Updates:

- Schedule is available on the website.
- A larger celebration & activities slated for the week of June 24th through the Fourth of July.
- Working to add as many Olympians as possible to the parade.

Waterfront Use Access Update:

- The contractor has begun to mobilize equipment & a security fence is being installed.
- The Butler building will need to be emptied sooner than anticipated.
- Access to the park and dock will be very limited and likely unavailable during much of the construction phase.

New Business:

Summer Programs and Staffing Update:

- Covered as part of Recreation Director Briefing above



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Guppy Park Structures:

- Old picnic shelter was deteriorated beyond repair and has been removed.
- The scorer's booth at the softball field was also reviewed for safety. Building is dated & in need of upgrades. Will need a plan to eventually replace structure.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Shellie Lemelin. Motion was seconded by Brian Murphy. Vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Next Meeting will be July 10th.

There will be no meeting in August

Respectfully submitted,
David Beaulieu