



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, November 13, 2023
Meeting Time: **6:00pm**

Draft

Call to order at 6:00pm

Roll Call

Present: David Beaulieu (Secretary), Gary Bannon (Director of Recreation), Heather Twombly (Chair), Brian Murphy, Shellie Lemelin, Dennis Shanahan (city council liaison), John O'Connor

Absent: Alicia Rooney, Melanie Burger, Shawn Mickelonis, Rick Mikulis (Vice-Chair),

Approval of Minutes for October 9, 2023

Approved by Brian Murphy; Seconded by John O'Connor

Public Forum:

None

Reports:

Advisory Board:

- John noted that the skate park really came out nice.
- Heather noted a few improvements along the community trail.

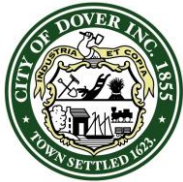
Recreation Director, Gary Bannon

- Willand Pond recreational trail bridges were replaced by the City of Somersworth. They utilized a company that installs docks so they would withstand the weather.
- Winter programs rolling out. Continue to work on staffing levels.
- Veteran's Day ceremony had a good crowd. We continue to install memorial bricks adding approximately 40 each spring and fall now.
- Arena will be undertaking a roofing project and replacement of the cooling tower.
- Great Bay Rowing is concerned with their ability to run programming while the waterfront is under development. They launched out of Hilton Park this fall & that proved problematic. Gary is working with them to try and find winter storage off the waterfront site.

Old Business:

Skate Park Project Update and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:

- The skate park held a dedication ceremony & ribbon cutting on Sunday October 22nd after being rain delayed from Saturday.
- Residents are stopping by & were very complementary of how the park developed. Overall positive feedback from community.



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- The Rotary Pavilion is awaiting the concrete slab to be poured before framing can begin. Possibly this winter but may be built in the spring pending weather conditions.
- The Portsmouth Skate Park should be complete by the end of November.

Jenny Thompson Pool Project Update:

- City has allocated \$2M in funds through the CIP (\$500K of which is a grant).
- The project will be phased over a couple years and reviewing how upgrades can be completed with minimal loss to pool use during normal operating months.
- Repairs, which include the decking, plumbing, and gutter system will run into 2025.

Staffing Update:

- Krista will leave her permanent position as Assistant Recreation Director and will be working part-time with limited programs.
- Chris Hitchcock has assumed the position of Arena Manager and his previous position is now posted.
- Working to fill some part-time openings now.

CIP Projects:

- Garrison Hill tower needs to be repainted, the decking replaced, and trees trimmed. Considering alternate options for decking.
- Volunteers are assisting with the Garrison snowboard hill. With their help the snowboard hill will reopen this year, but not the sledding hill.
- As part of the water tower upgrades, a water feed is being considered to provide a feed to the community garden and possibly future snowmaking on the hill.

New Business:

Winter Programs:

- Sign-ups went well and most programs are full.
- Krista is helping out getting the fitness programs going.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony:

- The tree is donated and being prepared to install.
- Tree lighting ceremony is scheduled for Friday December 1st.
- Santa who typically participates has retired with no replacement to date.

Budget Development:

- Budgets are in progress and being amended.



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Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Brian Murphy. Motion was seconded by John O'Connor. Vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Next Meeting will be December 11th.

Respectfully submitted,
David Beaulieu