



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust Street, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: Monday, September 8, 2008
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Rich Thorpe

ROLL CALL: Members in Attendance were Rich Thorpe, Mark Hyson, John Towle, Pete McKenney, and Joe Tenuta. Absent: Brenda Smith and Greg Nesman.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Joe Tenuta made a motion to continue with the current slate of officers through the end of the year and then elect a new slate of officers in January. John Towle seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 11, 2008: Pete McKenney made a motion to approve the minutes from August 11, 2008. Joe Tenuta seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CITIZEN'S FORUM: Jerry Newcomb is a new member but has not been officially appointed as of this date. Jerry was welcomed by the board. Bob Carrier was present and asked if the board had any questions for him. A question was raised to see if Bob Carrier was going to be the City Council liaison to the Recreation Advisory Board. Bob stated that it has not been finalized yet, but that he would like to be the liaison. Bruce Thorner from Dover Youth Softball is also present.

REPORTS: ADVISORY BOARD – Joe Tenuta mentioned that he has seen the group that has been playing cricket on Saturdays at Longhill Park. Joe stated that he sees more and more people watching them. Gary Bannon stated that he has not heard any news related to parking issues so far this season.

Pete McKenney stated that he talked to Mr. Hughes from Park Street regarding fencing at Park Street. Mr. Hughes stated to Pete that he worries if the fences get taken down if cars would be driven on the field.

Pete McKenney also stated that he felt tagging was out of control. Pete suggested that this needs to be controlled. Pete stated that taggers parents were walking out into Central Avenue by Nicole's. Gary Bannon stated that he will have to check with the



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City Clerk's office and see if there is a screening process. Gary stated he would get back to the board at the October meeting. Gary stated that there should be something in place so groups don't tag all at once. Pete McKenney stated maybe they could give something to someone who has already given so that they are not approached again. Gary suggested that this information would be good to provide at the League President's meeting.

Mark Hyson stated that the signage for the Women's and Men's Room need to be fixed so that when the doors are open, that there is a sign to tell which is which. The sign is currently on the exterior part of the partitions. Mark Hyson also asked if there was a way to lock the bathroom doors from the inside for privacy issues. Mark stated that he looked at the inside of the Concession stand and it looks great.

Mark Hyson asked that since the fees for other organizations using the fields was not put on the agenda, that this be tabled to the October meeting.

Pete McKenney stated that he attended the Hancock Park Barbecue and he stated that it was good attendance. Both the Fire Department and Police Department was also represented.

Pete McKenney asked for an update with regards to the coaches from Dover Baseball that was discussed at the last meeting. Bob Carrier stated that Dover Baseball instituted a questionnaire for parents of the All-Star Teams and they are documenting the information as it comes in. Bob stated that Dover Baseball will work with the Executive Board. Pete McKenney asked if the Cal Ripken organization has taken any action against these coaches. Bob Carrier stated that he believes they are waiting to see what action Dover Baseball will be taking.

Pete McKenney asked if the Coach Smart Training is done for every League. Gary Bannon stated that it is open to every league, however not everyone participates. Pete asked about background checks. Gary Bannon stated that background checks



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are not as Recreation Advisory Board Policy, and some leagues do these on their own. Jerry Necomb stated that he knows that Youth Soccer does a nationwide background check called Kid Safe. Bob Carrier stated that Dover Baseball usually does local background checks but did not do these this past year.

REPORTS: RECREATION DIRECTOR, GARY BANNON – Gary stated that the Recreation Brochure is at the printers. Gary stated that the brochure is now being produced as a Recreation only brochure and won't have all the other City Department information that the Community Notes used to have. Also, Gary stated that the Recreation Department will only be printing approximately 4,000 instead of 15,000. The brochures will be available online and can also be picked up at various locations. The brochure will not be mailed out, however there will be a press release generated to let the public know where they can pick up the brochures. The special revenue funds will be used to pay for the brochure this year. Gary stated that there is a new financial system for the City and this may help the Recreation Department be able to have people register with credit cards and online registrations, which the Recreation Department has yet been able to do.

Rich Thorpe asked what the avenue would be if the Recreation Advisory Board wanted to put something on Channel 22. Gary stated that the board would have to go through the City Manager's Office.

Gary mentioned that Recreation Supervisor, Donna Torresson is out on medical leave till about November. Gary and Krista will be picking up the slack in the interim.

Gary stated that he is dealing with the McConnell Center water issues. Gary stated that the water table in this area is very high and with the rain storms the water is up front by the parking lot. The public works department dug up and put a French drain in. Gary stated that in early August the street drains backed up in front of the Court house and there was some flooding in the Children's Center and Cafeteria. The city had Serv Pro company to come in and clean up the area. This happened twice. Currently the



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French drain is in and the drain problems have been fixed. After the last rain storms the Children's Center did not get any water, however the Café did get a little water. Gary stated that a CIP project will be put forth to address this situation so that there will be no more water issues.

Gary talked about the parking issues at Henry Law Park with the Indoor Pool patrons and the Children's Museum patrons. Gary stated that this past summer anywhere between 1,000 – 1,500 patrons per day were visiting the Museum and the Pool. A meeting of representatives from the Recreation Department, the Children's Museum, the Parking Department and the Engineer's office met and is discussing what action can be taken to alleviate this situation. Currently the flow is steady but not overwhelming. The representatives will be meeting again in November and they will also be looking at the parking plan for Henry Law Avenue.

Gary is working with the planning department with regards to impact fees for new construction in Dover for the cost of Recreation, School, and Safety issues. Gary stated that he would like to see this money be set for capital improvements. This money would have to be spent within six years. The money in the funds currently are for older projects.

Gary will get with Bruce Thorner and Tim Little on rewording of the Shaw's Lane Concession stand plaque to state that the donation was for the concession area and not the entire facility.

OLD BUSINESS: SHAW'S LANE BUILDING PROGRESS/MOU'S FOR DOVER SOCCER ASSOCIATION, DOVER YOUTH SOFTBALL LEAGUE, AND DOVER BASEBALL – Gary Bannon handed out the MOU between DSA and DYSL. Gary stated that he is open to ideas regarding the MOU between the organizations and the City of Dover. Rich Thorpe



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stated that this needs to be a real working document and would probably also need to be approved by the City Attorney.

Bob Carrier suggested that not to put in dates in the MOU. Mark Hyson stated that field maintenance be put on the MOU as well.

The issue of trash at the fields was brought up and Gary stated that there are dumpsters in certain locations. Gary stated that he would have the City let the organizations know where locations of the dumpsters are.

OLD BUSINESS: MASTER PLAN – Bob Carrier spoke with Norm and is waiting to hear back from him on an update on the Master Plan. Norm is working with Chris Parker of the planning department. Currently the deadline has been extended. Norm and Chris will be getting together to firm up the final draft.

OLD BUSINESS: BUTTERFIELD GYM DEDICATION STATUS – The logo in the Center Circle of the gym has been complete. Ernie Clark received donations for the interior signage. The cost of the exterior sign is \$1,700. It was decided that Mark Hyson would speak with the President's of the Men's Basketball Leagues to see if they wouldn't mind if we used some money from their Special Revenue Funds. Mark stated he would speak with these individuals. The official Gym dedication would be this fall once the basketball programs are underway.

NEW BUSINESS: FALL PROGRAMS – Gary Bannon stated that the Little Kickers Soccer program is up and running. The Senior programs are all full or near full capacity. Gary stated that Fall programs are going well and sign ups are strong.

NEW BUSINESS: CODE OF ETHICS DEVELOPMENT – Rich stated that he found more information on other organizations code of ethics and he passed around different code



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of conducts that he and Mark Hyson have found. Rich Thorpe will get copies to sport organizations and to get copies of their Code of Ethics.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: GARRISON HILL TOWER – Bob Carrier stated that the grass looks good and not much trash. However, Bob did notice that around the fencing the grass and shrubs are overgrown.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: DOVER BASEBALL – Bob Carrier stated Dover Baseball is creating Dugouts for Horne Street School and the design will be like the Woodman Dugouts. They will also be looking to put in a scoreboard. The electricity for this area is in.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: DOVER YOUTH SOFTBALL LEAGUE – Bruce Thorne stated that Dover Youth Softball is looking into building dugouts at the JV Field at Dover High School. DYSL would like to use the money from the Special Revenue Fund and hopefully money from the Sand and Gravel fund. DYSL is looking at the DHS trades program to help out and maybe build the dugouts.

ADJOURN – Rich Thorpe made a motion to adjourn. Joe Tenuta seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mark Hyson