



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust Street, Dover, NH 03820
Room 220
Meeting Date: Monday, June 14, 2010
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

CALL TO ORDER: Joe Tenuta called the meeting to order at 6:12PM

ROLL CALL

Present

Recreation Director: Gary Bannon
Assistant Recreation Director: Krista Trefethen
City Council Liaison: Bob Carrier

Recreation Board Members in attendance:

Joe Tenuta
Jon Towle
Jeff Canfield
Rich Johnson
Kathy Morrison

Recreation Board Members absent:

Mark Hyson
Suzanne Meadows
Jerry Newcomb

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 12, 2010 minutes
Jeff Canfield made a motion to approve the April 12th, 2010 minutes.
Richard Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

CITIZENS' FORUM: No Citizens forum.

REPORTS

A. ADVISORY BOARD

Joe Tenuta spoke with Wayne Coolidge regarding the Guppy Park softball field. Joe advised Wayne to make improvements as they deem necessary. The Softball League has approximately \$2,500 in its User Fee balance account (they have not used it or contributed to it in approximately four years). Joe advised Wayne that there is no quid-pro-quo. Wayne et al. must get approval on capital projects first. Gary Bannon discussed making improvements on follow-up regarding reminders of account balances. Discussed that Dover Softball has supplied bylaws and insurance validation. We discussed the 75/25 residency rule is a slippery slope regarding non-school field usage. Krista mentioned that St. Mary's and Portsmouth Christian Academy students are an 'X-factor' regarding this rule.



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Jon Towle advised the Board that Dover Youth Football is cramped for space. Discussed option for the Grade 5/6 football team practices (i.e., Long Hill and Morningside Parks). We touched on the possible use of Shaw's Lane. Decision: One or two DYFL Junior Division (Grade 2-4) teams can practice at Long Hill Park. The Grade 5/6 players will practice at either Maglaras or Morningside Park.

We discussed the tight parking at Long Hill Park, and Gary mentioned the possibility of 15 additional nose-in parking spaces in the future. Ancillary to that comment, Gary also mentioned that a pathway for Long Hill Park has been requested between the park and the Middleton Building Supply parking lot. The Dog Park fencing and signs will be erected around the end of June or early July. Kevin Goodwin (external supplier) is working on the signs.

B. RECREATION DIRECTOR, GARY BANNON

Budget: Gary and Krista did the best they could on the budget regarding intelligent choices during the entire budget cycle. Citizen involvement was helpful. Cuts (general reductions) did occur. The year-over-year budget is down approximately 1% (effectively flat).

Concerns: Senior staff funding is now out of the special revenue fund (not General Fund any more). Need to make money to cover certain staff (approximately \$20K). Gary is trying to make it all balance.

Camp Sun n' Fun was shut down this summer. All day camp activities are consolidated to Camp Kool.

Camp Sun n' Fun repairs status: Still working on insurance proceeds/refund (goal date is end of June, 2010).

Gary also has been asked to prepare a 3-month budget to keep the pools open through the summer.

A formal Pool Advisory Committee has been proposed. The precursor Save our Swimming group currently meets every Monday night to keep things rolling. The new committee will be made up of seven regular members and two alternate members. Its immediate goal is to recommend ways to increase revenue for the pools (fund raising, etc.). Pool will still be a huge challenge. Example of ideas: Sponsorships, New fees, Higher fees (bring up slowly- based on budget). Gary used the five-year graduated fee



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increases at the Dover Ice Arena as an example. Some pool committee members may also apply to be on the Recreation Advisory Board (at least one).

Recent figure:

Indoor Pool Deficit: (\$300K)

Outdoor Pool Deficit: (\$60K)

Idea: Reduce rates to generate business.

Goal would be a revised deficit of \$220K for the Indoor Pool and \$50K for the Outdoor Pool.

C. ASSISTANT RECREATION DIRECTOR, KRISTA TREFETHEN

1. Advertising has gone out to let people know that the camps are now open for registration. Staff hired, Training ongoing. Starting Camp Kool and Playgrounds Program in two weeks (end of June). Ages 6 through 12 for both programs.

2. Working with the senior center - getting them up to speed with programs - working with them on fundraising.

OLD BUSINESS

Jon Towle advised that Long Hill Park is looking good. Gary is still policing the area to ensure all checklist items are completed before the dog park fences go up.

Gary to follow up with people interested in being involved with a dog owners group (they need to offer to volunteer to help police dog owners). Gary is having detailed rule signs produced commercially. Parking is still a concern to Gary. We want to avoid a bad reputation concerning tight parking. Consequently, we are thankful for Middleton Lumber's parking offer. The Rules signs are under review by city attorney Krans. Community Services met on June 14 to discuss when the path can be cut between the park and Middleton Lumber.

MOU – Reviewed MOU example by Mark Hyson concerning league versus city responsibilities. Gary wants to ensure no one conflicts with each other.

Park Street Park Project – Gary and Bob Carrier have been active. Norm Fracassa is coordinating equipment and improvements in logical manner to avoid rework. Example: Underground electrical equipment. June 30 goal will not be met. Equipment orders were just made, due to recent city budget concerns. Budget was shrunk. There is a 4 to 6 week delivery lead-time. Construction then needs to occur. Benches and site



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work (including basketball court) are ongoing. Gary is the City's liaison. No email to community recently, but some will be forthcoming. Park Street Park will take most of the summer to finish. Street work will not be complete until mid-July.

Lighting concerns: Gary and Norm met with PSNH last week. Financial issues: Park lights (security) are going in. New poles are on Park Street side. The East Concord street light needs to be reviewed so it is high enough and right wattage so that it will not invite after hours basketball if the light is installed.

Bob Carrier mentioned that with budget cuts, the park plans should have been reduced. New Goal: Get equipment in (reduced from \$55k to \$35K). \$20K balance from Rotary is for everything else. Get basketball court laid out/prepared (but not finished).

Bob feels that trees (12 tentatively reserved by Norm) will come. Benches will also come. Bob Carrier discussed potential marketing efforts to get families/business to fund the trees and benches.

Bob Carrier has sent email out to slow the park initiative down, so that we can afford what we're doing. The park may just take longer to finish.

We do not believe a water fountain is in existence at the park.

By-Laws Revision to address attendance – Alan Krans is working on citywide standards. 33% absenteeism in 12 months, versus 4-in-a-row standard. Gary passed out a copy of the operating rules document edited by Jerry Newcomb.

Nesman Memorial Tree and Plaque – Plaque almost complete. Kevin Goodwin (outside vendor) handling this.

Other Business/Comments:

Bob Carrier advised that City Attorney Alan Krans is working the documents ruling the new Pool Committee. One City Councilor is inquiring about voting rights by the Councilor seat on the committee. Bob Carrier responded with the idea of a City Councilor liaison approach only. So that issue has generated some delays with the Pool Committee. Pool Committee should be voted on by the City Council on June 23.

Joe Tenuta asked if we should meet each month in the summer. Everyone agreed to continue meeting monthly.

F. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded.

The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Richard Johnson