

CITY OF DOVER

DOVER POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Indoor Pool Meeting Room, Henry Law Ave, Dover, NH
03820
Meeting Date: Monday, March 5, 2012
Meeting Time: **7:00 pm**

DRAFT

members present: Dick Arnold, Pat Campbell, Dawn Haines (in at 7:07), Tim Paiva, Suzanne Petersen, Phil Read

staff present: Gary Bannon

absent: Mick Arsenault, Sue Medbery, Mike Weeden

Meeting began at 7:02 p.m..

Approval of agenda: Dick made a motion to accept the agenda. Phil seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

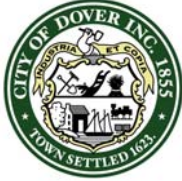
Approval of minutes from Feb. 6, 2012: Tim made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Dick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizens' forum: n/a

Reports:

Gary Bannon:

- Things are generally going well. Transition from winter to spring programs has begun. Swim lessons are full and the staff was able to schedule an extra session. One notable issue is that air temperature is running above the desirable level. There is a discrepancy between what the temperature is set to run and what it reads remotely. An associated problem is that the water temperature has gotten as high as 84. We are working to rectify this situation.
- Henry Law Park renovation: the city has set aside \$125,000 through the capital improvements program to upgrade and improve the park. PSNH, the Rotary Club, and others have expressed an interest in adding funding. A public workshop will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the McConnell Center on Tuesday March 6 to seek input and comments as plans take shape. Among the needs for this project to accomplish:
 - to integrate into this project a future project to build a solarium for the pool where the garage doors are and expand the pool deck outward
 - replace the splash pool with a water play area
 - to integrate into this project the planned relocation of the covered pedestrian bridge across the river to form a connection between One Washington and Henry Law Park.



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- create a logical and aesthetically pleasing connection among the Rotary Pavilion Park, the pool, and Henry Law Park.
- to replace the current playground with an improved combination of recreational and educational features
- To address safety issues related to pedestrian and vehicle traffic in the park

fundraising/marketing:

Dawn reported that the swim clinic planning continues. Sponsorships are being solicited. Mick has created a list of what SSA needs to provide/help with. Coaches have been solicited, but none has confirmed yet. Registration is occurring on-line through the SSA website and on paper through www.doverswims.com. The program for the adult day, Sunday, is not so tangible. Dawn had suggested asking the youth coaches to provide help and activities, but Pat, Dick, and Phil suggested getting coaches who specialize in adult swimming and avoid dry-land activities. Dawn will call Crystie McGrail of Great Bay Masters to suggest adult coaches and targeted skills. Pat will have swim clinic flyers available for the big masters' meet at Harvard.

Suzanne reported:

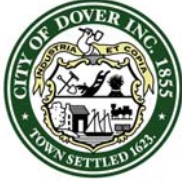
- The New Year's Resolution sale had yielded 24 new memberships and 76 membership renewals. This effort brought in \$11,090.00. She thanked Jesse Bickford for the great idea and post-sale survey work. The survey showed that most sales were due to suggestions from staff and posters at the pool.
- Mick was contacted by a bicycle group that will be crossing NH. With the closure of the Memorial Bridge between Kittery and Portsmouth, riders need an alternate route on May 20. The Indoor Pool/Henry Law Park will be the rest and support stop for the riders for the detour route

long-range planning:

Tim reported that SSA is still looking at two options: winterizing the JT Pool and discussing a proposal from a private party.

finance and budget:

Phil provided January figures and noted that the numbers looked good, but were slightly behind last year's numbers in some areas.



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Jenny Thompson Outdoor Pool covers:

Gary received a quote for a full set of heavy duty covers for \$15,735 which includes shipping. The priority for this year is to cover the main pool. The shorter sections of the pool may be covered using sections from the old covers for now. The long covers alone cost \$9800. The committee has \$5100 in hand toward the purchase from the Pool-a-Thon.

Americans with Disabilities Act issues:

Gary reported that, as of March the pools will need to meet new ADA accessibility regulations. The pools are required to have two forms of access. The Indoor Pool does have a chair lift, but it has not been used in a long time and is not functional at this time. Gary and Mick are trying to repair it. The JT Pool will need a chair for the summer, a cost of about \$4000. If the lift at the indoor pool cannot be fixed, replacing it will be another \$4000.

Dover Recreation Volunteers of the Year recognition:

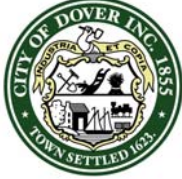
Gary reported that McDonald's has been nominated for the sponsor award due to its generous support of the pools in 2010. They co-sponsored the Swim Clinic and donated a significant sum toward the pool fund through the grand re-opening sales percentage program. The ceremony will be held March 29.

JT bathhouse update:

Tile work is next on the schedule. The crew is waiting for warmer weather.

Goal setting for 2012:

- fundraising: Focus on 2-3 big, annual activities, including the swim clinic. The Pool-a-Thon is probably not sustainable and should not be relied on for regular revenue. Partner with Friends of Dover Recreation to seek grants. Shift main efforts from fundraising to advisory capacity.
- marketing: Continue to build market presence and public awareness of pools.
- finance and budget: Develop a financial database to predict and manage revenue & expenses, mark progress against benchmarks.
- long-range planning: Examine options and make a good faith determination of what is in the best interest of aquatics programming for Dover. Include a plan for transitioning from the present status to the desired future status. By the end of summer 2012, solidify long range plan.



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Budget:

Gary will meet with the city manager on March 19. The budget presentation to the city council will occur on May 16. Gary would like to include JT Swim Clinic predictions.

Misc:

Gary announced that Jenny Thompson has been nominated to the US Olympic Hall of Fame. The public is welcome to participate in the process by casting ballots for worthy nominees. Suzanne will include the information in the March newsletter and on posters for the pool.

Adjournment:

Dick made a motion to adjourn. Phil seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:20.