



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, 61 Locust Street, Dover, NH 03820
Senior Center Activity Room
Meeting Date: Monday, May 13, 2013
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER: Joseph Tenuta called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05pm

ROLL CALL

Recreation Director: Gary Bannon

Assistant Recreation Director: Krista Trefethen

Recreation Board members in attendance:

City Council Liaison: Bob Carrier

Joe Tenuta

Richard Johnson

Scott Kelley

Norm Fracassa

Stanley Kaubris

Kathy Morrison

Jon Towle

Jerry Newcomb

Margaret Trefethen

Recreation Board members not in attendance:

Ronan O'Doherty (Alternate member)

Jon Towle

Open Positions on Rec Board: Two alternates

A full board consists of nine (9) full time members and three (3) alternate members.

Also in attendance: Matt Johnson from the informal external Skate Park Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of minutes for April 8, 2013

Scott Kelley made a comment to change the minutes regarding the wording of 'finals' concerning Garrison Hill. Scott made motion to approve the corrected April minutes. Seconded by Stan Kaubris. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' FORUM:

None (no members of the general public in attendance)



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REPORTS

A) ADVISORY BOARD:

None, but Joe Tenuta generally discussed Stan's checklist of park review tasks – which had been covered in the prior month's meeting.

B) RECREATION DIRECTOR, GARY BANNON

- 1) Gary stated that budget deliberations are ongoing.
- 2) Community Services budget discussion occurring this week.
- 3) Then formal budget workshops will occur.
- 4) Things are fluid, due to school budget request (see-saw). School budget versus city budget.
- 5) Gary presented his budget approximately one and half weeks ago.
- 6) Indoor pool roof: Contractors looking at pool/roof.
- 7) Jenny Thompson Pool: Opened for Seacoast Swimming Association, rentals, etc. Water temperature is in the 70s (F). The pool will have swim meets in June and July, 2013.
- 8) Skate Park review by Matt Johnson:
 - a) Trying to make connections with Dover Rotary. Met with vice-president and soon-to-be president. Positive reaction from Rotary. Skate park team requesting \$75,000. Working on a formal presentation.
 - b) Skating is a legitimate sport today. Greater than fifteen years ago.
 - c) Working with UNH Civil Engineering Department on design work, etc. UNH may also know funding resources.
 - d) Facebook site with PayPal established. Updated every few days. Serves as a forum.
 - e) Jerry Newcomb asked how much the fundraising goal is. Matt responded that the goal is \$250,000.
 - f) The skate park committee met earlier tonight (May 13) and started discussing budget. Site, utilities, etc.
 - g) Design and build (flat): \$135,000. Concrete. No maintenance. Can handle BMX and skate boarding.
 - h) Discussed idea of coin operated lights.
 - i) The idea is that \$30,000 from City/Dickinson fund plus \$75,000 from Rotary equals leverage to seek additional funds.
 - j) Margaret asked about location of the skate park. There was then an in-depth discussion regarding whether the park should stay where it is if the Dickinson Project ultimately fails to materialize, move to



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the planned Maglaras Park location, or move to another location. Richard questioned why we would want to move the skate park, considering that the Dickinson group has failed on its commitments to date, and the present location is close to the center of the city. Based on a question, Bob Carrier also confirmed that if the Dickinson Project fails the overall waterfront initiative is dead and any intended use for the twenty-two acres starts over. Gary's comments indicated that even if the Dickinson Project ultimately fails to break ground and the whole initiative fails, the City of Dover administration wants the skate park moved from the city's waterfront entry point.

- k) Matt Johnson added that a goal date of breaking ground for the skate park, per his group, is October, 2014.

ASSISTANT RECREATION DIRECTOR, KRISTA TREFETHEN

- 1) Dancing with the Dover Stars is May 18. Bob Carrier has been a big help with fundraising. There is a big push this week to sell tickets. There will be three judges and the music will be upbeat. Don Briand will be volunteering as the emcee. A 50/50 raffle will occur, and a big raffle prize is in the works. Dancing professionals are a big help to the fundraiser. Joe Tenuta stressed that Krista and Linda have done a great job.
- 2) Saturday, June 22: Hershey Track Meet at Dover High School. Ages 9 through 14. A Dover team will attend.
- 3) Summer Programs: Hiring almost complete. Prices will be going up for late registrants.
- 4) Grades K through 6 flyers went home for playground programs, Camp Kool programs, and Jenny Thompson pool swim lessons.
- 5) E-newsletter up to approximately 800 subscribers.

Old Business

Henry Law Park project

Gary Bannon advised that the first concept plan will be ready next month.

Gary and Matt Johnson need to coordinate fundraising with Henry Law Park/Skate Park. Don't want to cannibalize each other. Gary wants Rotary money first for Henry Law Park Project.

The Dover Rotary is rehabilitating the band shell for this summer. They have plans to create a formal green room and portioned area (chain link fence, etc.).



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Garrison Hill Status:

McEneaney Surveying is under way.

Scott Kelley advised again that Joel Sherburne at Calef's Country Store will handle a commemorative pre-stamped envelope to mark the twentieth anniversary of the new Garrison Hill Tower. This will be sold as a fund raiser, and will also be sold on-site at the forthcoming 'Gauntlet Race' tentatively scheduled for early September, 2013.

Other items:

A park assignments follow-up and review of Stan's park checklist occurred. Krista will type and send out the assignments.

The main goal is a central communication process to the Recreation department regarding concerns, which can then be communicated to Community Services, as applicable. Looking for common issues.

New Business

Stackpole Property:

Sixty-eight (68) acres were recently acquired. Used to protect water supply. Sixty-five to seventy percent wetlands. There is a portion of land near Home Depot which is viable for use. Gary and Doug Steele looked at area for recreation usage. It has mature woods. Has 'roadage' already. One goal is to prevent homeless camping on the land in question.

New Hampshire trails money available. Grant cycle coming this Fall. Money could be used to tie in this new parcel with existing Willand Pond trail.

Willand Pond water table is stable, but bridges are gone (washed out). Bridges could be re-anchored, but coordination with Somersworth is necessary. Gary is looking in to it.

Liberty Mutual: Serve with Liberty

Week of June 17.

Gary is checking out areas of opportunity, including:

Henry Law Park

- 1) River Street embankment clearance.
- 2) Paint black light poles.
- 3) Paint Overlook Deck/Picnic tables/Pavilions
- 4) Garrison Hill improvements



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Matt is interested in helping, as well.

Last year approximately 100 people from Liberty took part.

Norm Fracassa discussed getting leftover brown paint from Doug Steele/Community Services.

ADJOURN

Margaret Trefethen motioned, Kathy Morrison seconded. Motion passed Adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully,
Richard Johnson