



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, September 8, 2014
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Joe Tenuta @ 7:03pm

ROLL CALL:

Recreation Director: Gay Bannon
Assistant Recreation Director: Krista Trefethen

Recreation Board Members in Attendance:

Joe Tenuta
Stanley Kaubris
Jerry Newcomb
Richard Johnson
Wayne Boucher
Norm Fracassa (arrived at 7:07pm)

Recreation Board Members Not in Attendance:

Ronan O'Doherty
Kathy Morrison
City Council Liaison: John O'Connor
Scott Kelley
Jon Towle

Open Positions On Rec Board:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 9, 2014 meeting were reviewed. There was no July, 2014 meeting held, and the August attendance count failed to meet a quorum. Wayne Boucher motioned approval. Stan Kaubris seconded. Passed Unanimously

CITIZENS FORUM:

No one in attendance None

REPORTS:

Advisory Board Members:

Joe Tenuta reported that parking at Long Hill Park is better. The cricket players are using the three additional parking spaces.



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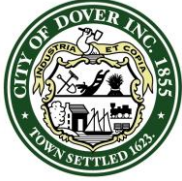
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Recreation Director Gary Bannon:

1. Cricket tournament at Long Hill Park coming up on September 13 and 14. Attendees will be carpooling from Market Basket parking lot to improve parking. The games can be long. Field will be used from 8am to dusk. Gary will also get feedback from dog park attendees.
2. Jerry Newcomb sent requests to Kathy Morrisson and Ronan O'Doherty regarding their future plans with The Board. Ronan will be submitting his resignation letter.
3. Apple Harvest Day coming up. Several booths.
 - a) Indoor Pool Committee
 - b) Senior Center
 - c) Henry Law Park Project
4. Gundalow Project is still under way. Private fundraising is ongoing. Gary had a meeting today with businesses (lighting, etc.), who will draft a proposal. Donors will make checks payable to Friends of Dover Recreation, Inc. [501(c)(3)], to get tax deduction.
5. Jenny Thompson Pool will be closed on Labor Day. Joe asked about pool use. Gary responded that he gets a lot of positive feedback from users, including people from out of town (i.e., clean and friendly). Gary needs to coordinate swim meets and ice arena activity when they overlap. There is some impact on Camp Kool when the meets occur on summer weekdays. The good thing for Dover is that the swim meets fill up the hotels in Dover, Somersworth, and Portsmouth; a positive impact on local businesses with a 'trade-off', but a good summer.
6. 10K road race hosted by Guppy Park/Pool/Arena.

Assistant Recreation Director Krista Trefethen:

1. Switching to Fall programs.
2. Closed gym and refinished the floor (opened up last week).
3. Senior Fitness and Fitness classes started.
4. National park trip just returned.
5. Upcoming trips include October Switzerland Trip, Castle-in-the-Clouds, The Nutcracker play, and The Taj.
6. There will be an upcoming travel night (e.g., Rhine River cruise offering, etc.).
7. Dover Fire Department CPR class was held this past week.
8. Periodic senior lunches going well. Averaging fifteen to sixteen attendees. Lasagna this week. Average cost is \$6 per person.
9. Two more Dover High School class pictures came in for the McConnell Center collection. Need to be frame and hung.
10. Fall sports all started recently (i.e., soccer, cheerleading, football).



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11. Pickleball starts at 1pm on September 17. One dozen registrants in the gym. Bennetts from South Berwick will be showing participants/training. Krista explained the game to Joe Tenuta.
12. Cardio classes are really popular, and full.
13. September is National Senior Center month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Skate Park Update:

The Dickinson waterfront project was terminated in August. The need to relocate the skate park is now in a holding pattern. Pressure is off. However, \$20,000 is being spent on the portable half-pipe project. The Dover City Council previously approved these funds. Materials have been purchased. Pre-fabricating is taking place off-site; being stored off of Mast Road. Storage container currently at the skate park will be used to store materials. Gary is communicating with the Skate Park group. Hope to finalize construction this Fall. Stacks of lumber cut and shaped. All volunteer group. Gary visited the park, and was impressed with cleanliness. There was a volunteer there today cleaning up with a bucket. To date, \$9,000 in materials has been spent by the city. 'Skatelite' decking material has been purchased directly by the Skate Park organization.

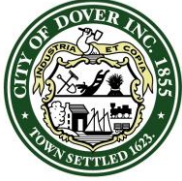
Henry Law Park Update:

Gary is still working on fund raising.
He wants \$400,000 in available funds before demolition/construction starts.
Gary is still seeking out large donors.
He was contacted by a playground manufacturing company with a matching grant program.
Original goal was to break ground in the Fall of 2014. New goal is to break ground in Spring of 2015 when entire \$400,000 has been secured.
Dover Rotary advised to seek them out next year, regarding possible funds.

NEW BUSINESS:

Summer Intern Project:

Gary handed out master inventory plan of all city parks, plus photos, conditions, and dates of equipment manufacture; 143 pages in total.
Sections include images of all park signage, as well.
Dover Community Services helped fund the intern project. No one person knew everything about all parks.
The inventory is also in electronic form, so that it can be updated.
It can be used to train seasonal personnel.
Better mechanism for efficiency.



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Includes smaller properties and Community Trail, etc
The intern also investigated grant sources.

"A picture is worth a thousand words" Jerry Newcomb commented that he was impressed with the end-product.

Waterfront Development Project Changes:

Waterfront Committee is taking a fresh look. Gary is attempting to create as much public access to land and water as possible and could end up with a more significant parcel than under the prior Dickinson plan. UNH is now rowing on the river (using the Butler Building to store their shells).

Gary is putting a CIP in for future river park development to get ahead of the curve. Potential funding source could be a TIF resource.

Potential new multiple developers on the waterfront. Marilyn Follansbee spoke on behalf of open space.

Stan asked about the Butler Building. Gary explained that about a dozen rowing shells are being stored in the Butler Building. No dock yet, to use. The UNH coach is happy with the open water at the end of The Cocheco River. They will row until November of this year.

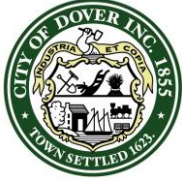
Norm talked about the earlier September 8, 2014 waterfront input meeting. Example: Desire for waterfront access, two minute limit for attendees to speak, etc.

Joe asked about how much waterfront access is possible. Gary responded that the entire parcel has thirty-six acres, and not really sure. Much of the riverbank is overgrown.

Other Items:

Norm Fracassa comments:

- 1- Pleasantly surprised with the condition of Park Street Park and Henry Law Park. Trash picked up. No broken branches. No graffiti. Park Street needs weeding in the flower bed. Norm is to help with Park Street Park.
- 2- Henry Law Park also looks good. Sherwood Landscape cuts the lower field. Weeds need to be taken care of before Apple Harvest Day. Norm will call Doug Steele at Community Services.
- 3- People are living at Henry Law Park and/or The Skate Park. This has generated public safety and trash concerns.



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4- The maintenance plan was stressed at the waterfront meeting tonight. Dover has great programs, but Morningside Park needs so many things besides just cutting the grass. There have been more maintenance comments than just Norm.

5- The 2008 Recreation Department Master plan is getting old. Update it?

6- There are thirty-six parks/locations. More than just 'Mow, blow, and go'?

Ask Doug Steele to attend a meeting after Apple Harvest Day?

7- John O'Connor arrived at 7:50pm from the Waterfront Committee meeting.

8- Norm called the Chamber of Commerce events planner. Ban Styrofoam containers? Strategic recycling with volunteers at trash stations? Joe liked the Styrofoam idea, but what about city businesses? Norm responded that if it was easy, it would already be done.

ADJOURN:

Norm Fracassa motioned. Stanly Kaubris seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting will be held on October 13, 2014.

Adjourned at 7:55pm

Respectfully,
Richard Johnson