



**CITY OF 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: Tuesday, April 13, 2015  
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Scott Kelley @ 7:00pm

### **ROLL CALL:**

Recreation Director: Gay Bannon

### **Recreation Board Members in Attendance:**

Scott Kelley, Chair

Stanley Kaubris, Vice Chair

Christopher Lawrence

Mara Allaire

City Council Liaison: John O'Connor

### **Recreation Board Members Not in Attendance:**

Jon Towle

Richard Johnson

Wayne Boucher

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the March 16, 2015 meeting are still with Rich Johnson.

### **CITIZENS FORUM:**

Not applicable.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Advisory Board Members:**

Not applicable.

#### **Recreation Director, Gary Bannon:**

1. All league sports are anxious to get started; however, the fields are still too wet. An example is the baseball fields which may be hard to drain and very spongy. We will need several days of dry and sunny weather before opening the fields to the public. The Dover Baseball Opening Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2015.
2. The Budget presentation will be on April 29 at the City Council. Gary is scheduled to be the last presenter. Anyone from the Recreation Advisory Board is invited to attend.
3. There is still a big question surrounding the staffing for the Senior Center. Gary found out about a week ago that the City Manager moved the position fully into the Special Revenue Fund. This means there will be some adjustments made in the Special Revenue Fund to cover the costs of that position.



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4. If the budget goes through the process, the Council meets in May then the adoption of the budget takes place. Because the staffing position is in the Special Revenue Fund and not in the General Fund, it is not a target to be cut.
5. Gary is working on his presentation. Overall, Gary is excited for the opportunity to be in front of the Council and show the "\$50-\$60" cost per household taxes covers all of these Recreation programs.
6. Krista's trips are taking off at the Senior Center. Folks left for England this week. Next month some folks are going to Ottawa. There are bigger trips for which we receive thousands of dollars in commissions in exchange of promoting the travel options. Krista is stretching very thin to cover all programs.
7. The transition of arena to LED lighting will save thousands of dollars every year.
8. The lighting upgrade project is ongoing. Gary's goal is to convert to LED lighting in all Recreation facilities in the city. This project was started by Eversource. It is setup in municipalities. At the Arena there will be an investment of 120K by Eversource. We will pay \$2,700/month out of our bill, 24 months of bills to pay off the investment after that the savings will be ours. The facility will have more efficiency with maintenance; e. g., changing a light bulb in our gyms takes 3 hours currently. The lights will last ten years. Thus, we are moving forward with this project.

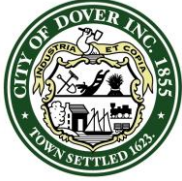
### **Assistant Recreation Director, Krista Trefethen, Gary Bannon reported on her behalf:**

1. The pickleball program is growing. There exists the possibility of potentially having an outside area to play pickleball. The Recreation Department is looking to convert 2 current tennis courts (e.g., Garrison or Horne Street) into an outdoor pickleball court. Gary and Krista will be going out to take dimensions.

There are several variables to keep in mind when determining which tennis courts to turn into a pickleball court. Some of these include the senior population in each area, the parking space, the number of entries, etc.

Dover Recreation has enough money from the Woodman Park Project that can be used towards the outdoor pickleball court project.

2. Our chair yoga class has grown to 37 members. Our fitness instructor will be starting a ZENgevity class.
3. The senior trips are very popular. The trip to Ottawa is full. The Gloucester trip in July is full. There will be two more trips in the fall.
4. Wednesday Senior lunches are also popular. There is a rotation of menus and some people attend these lunches just for the fun of it. There is a noticeable core group.



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5. The New Hampshire Association of Senior Centers Board will hold a conference in Concord about funding and revenue sources. The City of Dover will be represented in this statewide forum for the Senior Centers.
6. Dover Recreation is already receiving applications for summer programs staff.
7. Overall, the Dover Recreation Department is doing well.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Henry Law Park Project Status Update:**

The Henry Law Park Project team is currently looking for engineers and architects to complete the design so that we can then go out to bid for construction. The City will be the General Contractor role managing it all. The hope is to get the construction design e company on board by June. The construction will be bid in the summer to start construction in the fall.

The construction will not impact Apple Harvest as we will have the construction area fenced off and contained. The moving of the gundalow is an important part of this project.

There is \$100K donor gift for customized park features. This means we will be able to spend that money for custom-wood items, for example, which gives flexibility as to what to do with the gundalow.

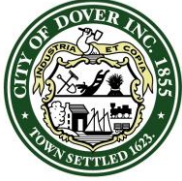
There is also an additional \$7K received in donations. All in all, we are close to the \$110K donor money. We also have the \$250K in CIP funds, combining all these moneys equal close to \$360K for this project. If need be, we can access some money from other CIP sources.

#### **Award Programs Review:**

Overall, the Award Programs event went really well. Having the USS Norfolk Commander there was an honor. Dover Recreation is very appreciative of the Loyal Order of Moose for hosting the event.

This type of event has to continue given the impact that it has on the community and the fact that we only heard positive feedback.

The event raised about \$1,200K; the total amount spent for the event was about \$50 less than what was raised.



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The fundraising list is old. It goes back to Bob Carrier being on the Board. John O'Connor will reach out to the City or Chamber to obtain a list of all city businesses. We can then compare the lists and determine which business stay or not in our fundraising list.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Submarine Crew Program Participation:**

We are working with Submarine Chief Ken Cochran. He wants to do a great job and is coming up with a list of all things that we can do. He would like to sharpen up the gundalow deck itself, perhaps polishing the brass. The chief and crew are brainstorming as to how they can make this gundalow more beautiful and outstanding. They will be here through November.

There will be road races taking place this Saturday, April 18, for Saint Mary's. All people are encouraged to participate.

#### **Grant Status:**

Dover Recreation did not receive the Trails grant. There was over two million dollars of requests and only \$600K was available to give. Everyone asks for the maximum. Dover Recreation will keep it in mind for next time.

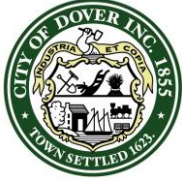
Tim Corwin in the Planning Department wishes to help with Garrison Hill Park project. There is also some money funding that is earmarked for specific items in the Planning Department that we can look into.

The other grant is from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Dover Recreation was one of the seven grants approved. It has gone to the final approval stage to be finalized by June. This is for the Waterfront Project, the dock specifically. This is about \$150K. This grant will help to move things along.

The UNH crew is out on the river rowing along with the Great Bay Rowing Club.

#### **Spring and Summer Programs Planning:**

Gary reviewed the history of the Summer Playgrounds Program. There used to be 10 staffed neighborhood parks now we only have 2 camps that are larger as they are consolidated from several smaller ones and are held at Garrison and Horne Street Schools. Krista oversees these programs with the assistance of a playground supervisor.



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The 4<sup>th</sup> of July event in Dover requires a good amount of money. Gary Bannon has to raise \$10K alone for fireworks. Liberty Mutual will donate \$5K. The money goes through the Friends of Dover Recreation which allows for a tax deduction.

The Recreation Department has a list of all parks in Dover. One of the tasks that the Recreation Advisory Board members contribute with is to visit each park once a month and report the park status/conditions to Gary. We do this to help the Facilities and Grounds Facilities Staff. Scott Kelley will look for the list of parks as well as the checklist that each Board member needs to have when visiting the parks and will provide these documents to the Recreation Advisory Board members for review and park assignment. The Facilities and Grounds Facilities Staff takes note of the parks status; however, they do not have a board like the Recreation Advisory Board; so, Gary Bannon is the liaison. This actually helps Gary to improve the Capital expenditure plans for improvements.

### **Aquatics Center:**

This project requires a \$15M investment. There is a Pool Advisory Committee however it will impact the parks. This goes back to 2009 when there were budget cuts to eliminate the pools. The idea of this regional Aquatics center is to design a 10-lane, 50-meter competition pool.

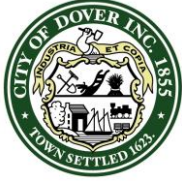
The Consultant Firm's vision is that the Northeast part of the United States has no regional Aquatic competition pool. Dover has had a pool that handles more than its capacity and it is maxed out. Therefore, the demand is there. The consultants believe that Boston events will move to the Dover Aquatics Center facility if we had it. Dover has the hotel infrastructure that will feed the economy from Rhode Island all the way to Canada, the entire Northeastern region. The Firm has a fifteen-million-dollar model ten-lane pool setup with bulkhead and a separate lesson/therapy pool.

Gary Bannon hopes that the city would keep the outdoor Jenny Thompson pool for activities that do not compete with the Aquatics Center.

The proposed site is Maglaras Park. The big question is whether it can be built there. In doing their research, the firm found that there is fill but there are no contaminants. The next question is what happens to those baseball fields currently used at Maglaras?

The consultant firm is also talking to the Swimming Hall of Fame Association to see if they can make this aquatics center a satellite location.

The goal is to get this done in two to three years, four years at the most.



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### **ADJOURN:**

John O'Connor motioned.  
Stan Kaubris seconded.  
Motion passed unanimously.  
Adjourned at 8:20pm

Respectfully,  
Mara Allaire

DRAFT