



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: Monday, May 11, 2015
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

DRAFT

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

ROLL CALL:

Recreation Director: Gary Bannon

Recreation Assistant Director: Krista Trefethen

Recreation Board Members in Attendance:

Scott Kelley, Chair

Stanley Kaubris, Vice Chair

Wayne Boucher

Mara Allaire

City Council Liaison: John O'Connor

Recreation Board Members Not in Attendance:

Jon Towle

Richard Johnson

Christopher Lawrence – *no longer with Recreation Advisory Board as he is now a regular Planning Board member.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 9, 2015 meeting are still with Rich Johnson.

The minutes of the April 13, 2015 were approved.

CITIZENS FORUM:

Not applicable.

REPORTS:

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

Not applicable.

RECREATION DIRECTOR, GARY BANNON:

1. In preparation for the 4th of July event, Gary has started to receive calls from vendors. Gary Bannon has to raise \$10K alone for fireworks. Liberty Mutual is a generous donor and will donate \$5K. The 39th Army Band has been invited to the ceremony.
2. The Recreation budget is already in the books. The City Council adopted the budget with minimal changes. Overall it is a very solid budget.



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3. The Senior Center Coordinator position is included in the budget. The Recreation Department is moving forward with this position to start on 7/1/15. This will allow expanding on other programs such as the travel program amongst others in the list.
4. The pickleball program outdoor project is in progress. The Recreation Department is still looking to convert 2 current tennis courts (e.g., Garrison) into four outdoor pickleball courts. Gary is waiting on vendors' quote for that conversion. The plan is to set up permanent posts. Gary is also obtaining prices on separation nets. The funds are available from the Woodman Park Project to use. The total cost is estimated to be \$12,000.00 dollars.
5. The Recreation Department is gearing up for the summer program by recruiting staff, preparing schedules, opening the pool, etc.

ASSISTANT RECREATION DIRECTOR, KRISTA TREFETHEN:

1. The reason for pushing the pickleball program expansion of an outdoor court is that there are 20 people on average at the indoor pickle ball activities each time we offer it. The program started with only Fridays, between 9am and 11am. Then added time to be between 8:30 and 11. Then added Tuesdays.

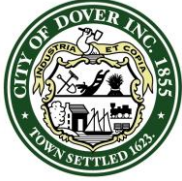
Krista has 2 instructors from Berwick. Krista will preserve time for the pickleball program. It was great this winter and now there is an influx of people coming from Florida for the summer.

The possibility of using school indoor gyms for the pickleball program is hard.

2. The Ottawa trip is now taking place, 45 people signed up.
The Kinky Boots Broadway Show in Providence is also popular.
The Lobster show is full.
The Taj Mahal trip is scheduled for September.

There are lots of trips and lots of people traveling through the travel program. Krista calculates cancellations and other variables; if she doesn't think that she can fill a second bus for instance, she will not try to add it. For a yoga class however, if a yoga class is filled, she has had to move it to a bigger space and will add a session. In short, the Recreation Department tries to be as accommodating as possible.

3. As of a week ago, every Senior Center Membership sold 62 in March and 72 in April. The membership fees are \$15 for Dover residents and \$25 for non-residents.



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4. The fitness-oriented centers have increased 40% from FY14 to FY15. Everything else has increased as well.
5. All of the city fields are finally open.
6. The summer program Camp Kool at the Dover Arena is taking registrations now.
7. The theater camps are full.
8. The Recreation Department plans to add a dance camp led by a teacher who knows theater camps instructor. This camp will take place at the City Hall Auditorium.
9. The summer programs try to be as multi-faceted as possible.

OLD BUSINESS:

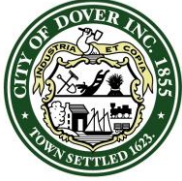
HENRY LAW PARK PROJECT UPDATE:

1. The Recreation Department is out to bid for engineers. The Recreation Department had interviews with 2 bids which were in the \$30K range, a reasonable expense amount. There are two companies that are very highly qualified, but no final decision has been made yet.
2. The goal is to have plans drawn up in July, start construction in September, get as much of the construction done in the fall, wrap it up for winter and finish in spring 2016.
3. It is very refreshing to see what architects are doing and can offer for this project such as using natural elements.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAGLARAS PARK POTENTIAL CHANGES:

1. In addition to the Aquatics Center, there is a group interested in building a 36-million dollar Earth, Sea, and Space Museum and they are looking to build it at Maglaras. The idea is that the Museum will be connected to the Aquatics Center by the parking lot.
2. The Aquatics Center is a little further ahead in design and fundraising.
3. The Earth, Sea and Space Museum has a national level impact from major organizations such as NASA and the Smithsonian.
4. Adding the Earth, Seas and Space Museum could have a tremendous economic impact for the economy, but the question remains: where does this leave Maglaras Park? The baseball fields are needed. We will have to wait and see what the developments are and where the money is. If the Aquatics Center and Earth, Sea and Space Museum both build at Maglaras, then we will have to move the baseball fields somewhere else.
5. The Aquatics Center estimates a 2-4 year plan for building phase.
6. The Earth, Sea and Space Museum estimates a 5-year building projection.
7. Late May or June there will be a study of how buildable Maglaras is. Depending on those results, we will take the next steps.



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DOCK CONSTRUCTION IN WATERFRONT:

1. The dock is in permit approval process.
2. This program is just taking off and justifies the fact that the interested parties need space for people to row down the river and enjoy nature.

SKATEPARK RAMP STATUS:

1. It is a huge accomplishment and a very good piece of equipment. This skate park ramp is all custom-designed and very unique. We will see how long it stays there based on the waterfront plans.
2. A dumpster was put out there over this past weekend to help with a cleanup project.
3. The volunteers who finished this project wish to do a demo show with Red Alert ribbon-cutting ceremony. There was a nice article about it in the *Foster's Daily Democrat* newspaper.
4. It will be nice to have the City Council recognize or have a proclamation recognizing these volunteers' efforts.
5. Gary will speak with the volunteers about the possibility of placing a net or fence for safety purposes and prevent any flying skateboards.

SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE:

1. The Recreation Advisory Board will need to make a decision on whether to keep the meetings during the summer or skip a month.
2. Topic is tabled for next meeting's (6/8) agenda to make a definite decision.
3. The dates for consideration would be July 13 and August 10.

PARKS LIST AND CHECKLIST:

1. The Recreation Advisory Board needs to make a decision on which Board member visits which city park and completes the checklist to assist the Parks and Grounds Team.
2. Topic is tabled for next meeting's (6/8) agenda to make a decision.

ADJOURN:

Stan Kaubris motioned.

Wayne Boucher seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 7:58pm

Respectfully,
Mara Allaire