



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, March 12, 2018
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

Call to Order at 7:01 PM

Roll Call

Attendance: David Beaulieu, James Boos (Vice –Chair), Martha Haley (Secretary), Peg Purcell (Chair), Heather Twombly (Alternate), Aimee Sanderson, Lindsey Williams (Council Liaison), Aaron Wozmak, Gary Bannon (Director of Recreation), John O'Connor

Absent: Mara Allaire, Cindy Imbro, Brandy Maas (Alternate), Rick Schnable, Krista Trefethern (Assistant Director of Recreation)

Motion: To amend the agenda to reflect the change in the correct dates of minutes for approval by J. O'Connor, second by L. Williams, UA

Approval of Minutes for February 12 and February 27 Meetings:

Motion to approve by J. O'Connor, second by H. Twombly, UA

Citizen's forum:

Chris Trembley: Member of Skatepark relocation committee was present to make commentary during the Skatepark relocation discussion.

Reports

Advisory Board

John O'Connor noted a small tree at Park Street Park had been uprooted during recent storms, and also large branches are down in the park.

Peg Purcell noted she had seen several cars parked during recent storms at the Park Street Park, in violation of the recently passed parking ordinance.

Peg asked if there have been any updates from the developer who had expressed interest in making improvements to Longhill Park. Gary reported there are no updates at this time.

Recreation Director

Gary reports recent snow storms have caused tree damage to some parks. Once snow has melted the City will be assessing the extent of damage and plan for cleanup.

Gary reviewed the contingency plan for stormy weather. The new generator was used in a recent storm.

Gary has met with the City Manager to review the Recreation Department budget. The manager is anxious to see new revenues produced by the Recreation Department programs. The possibility of increasing fees is under consideration for the near future, keeping in mind that the Recreation



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Department doesn't want to price themselves out of participation by residents. He has increased the scholarship budget to allow access to programs by low income youth. Budget presentations to the City Council are coming up within the next few weeks. Gary will be presenting on April 18.

John O. recommended Board members email their City Councilors to advocate for Recreation Department programs. Details of the budget are available on the City website.

Assistant Recreation Director: Gary reported in Krista's absence Basketball season is winding down. Several all-star teams are playing in tournaments. Spring sports sign ups concluded this past weekend. There were many new residents that came to sign-ups to learn about what leagues are available.

Old Business:

Waterfront Park and Dock Status: Details of the final design and plan for installation continue with Dock Doctors. The schedule remains for spring installation, with site work beginning within the next several weeks. Plans for a building as part of the park are being reviewed by the Waterfront Park Committee

Olympian Recognition Signage Discussion: Gary reviewed the status to date. Lindsey will make an announcement at the upcoming City Council meeting to encourage city residents to notify Rec Department of any others who should be recognized.

Awards Program Details: Sponsors have been secured to cover the cost of the program. Gary encouraged members of the Board to attend the program.

Skatepark Relocation:

Motion: by J. O'Connor to amend the rules to allow citizens input during the discussion. Second by P. Purcell, UA

Gary reviewed the status of the relocation. The Federal Funds Community Development Block Grant for the Skatepark can be used, but certain guidelines must be met to use the funds.

James reported an estimate of \$40 per square foot for a good skatepark. Based on the size of the current skatepark, the cost of a new skate park would be in the \$400,000 range. Gary stated there are many variables that will be considered for the relocation, including impact by the Waterfront Development, requirements for parking, lighting, landscaping. Maglaras Park will be the future location of the new skatepark. There are several options for the exact site, but nothing has been firmly decided.

Martha Haley asked: What needs to happen first, so that a final location can be determined?



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Gary stated the plan for the dredge cell closure must first be completed, then we will know how much area will be covered. Gary will speak with the City engineers, to get an estimate of when the dredge cell area will be filled with material moved from the blasting site. James stated the relocation committee cannot move forward until they have a definitive location and target date.

Chris Trembly provided input regarding what the committee has been dealing with due to the delays. Lindsey stated she would advocate with the City Council to take some concrete action to move this project forward.

Lively discussion followed regarding the length of time that has transpired since the beginning of the Skate park relocation process. James expressed frustration with the lack of progress and the delays that have occurred.

Lindsey stated she would like to see the project move forward, and would work with James and Chris to develop a plan.

Gary stated he would push to get confirmed dates of site preparation at Maglaras Park.

James asked for clarification of what parts of the current Skate Park will not be accessible during blasting and removal of the bluff.

New Business

Henry Law Park: Shade structures are being planned for the Adventure Park

Amanda Howard Park: Funds were approved several years ago for renovation of the park. Gary will be organizing a neighborhood meeting to seek input from residents.

Spring Projects: Getting ready for summer projects.

Motion to adjourn: J. Boos, second by J. O'Connor, UA
Adjourn at 8:07PM

Respectfully submitted,
Martha J Haley, Secretary