



CITY OF DOVER

POOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Indoor Pool, Meeting Room, Henry Law Ave, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: Monday, April 16, 2018
Meeting Time: 7:00pm

Call to Order: Meeting began at 7:00

Roll Call:

DPAC Representatives Present: Susan Ball, Jess Bonello, Pat Campbell, Christophe Cloitre, Sue Medbery, Tim Paiva, Suzanne Petersen (citizen volunteer)

Pool Affiliated City Staff Present: Mick Arsenault, Gary Bannon, Matt Keane (city council)

Absent: Casandra Lanton

Dover Arts Commission Representatives Present: Jane Hamor, Kim Schuman, Dennis Shanahan (city council)

Guest: Paul Cox

Approval of Agenda:

Tim made a motion to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

Move the mural discussion to follow approval of minutes.

Add a discussion about the storage building at the outdoor pool.

Pat seconded. Agenda with amendments was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from March 6, 2018:

Gary noted that Cassandra Lanton was incorrectly noted to represent the Dover Arts Commission. She should be listed as a pool representative.

Tim made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Pat seconded.

Minutes as amended were approved unanimously.

Citizens' Forum: No comments.

Discussion About Mural on Pool Building Facing Henry Law Avenue:

It was noted that representatives from the pool and arts committees were invited to meet with teens and the artist at their space in the Cocheco Mills on April 11. Approximately 10 teens welcomed 6 adults and shared their vision for the mural and their process.

Suzanne attended this open house and shared her impression that the teens who spoke were passionate about the mural and that it represented their view of Dover as a welcoming, safe place for all. The teens recognize that Dover is becoming increasingly heterogeneous and they celebrate this change. They enjoy hearing other languages being spoken at school and in their neighborhoods, learning about other cultures, and feeling they are, in fact, part of a bigger world. One student who recently moved here from South Carolina spoke of her gratitude for the openness and inclusiveness she has experienced here. Suzanne also shared that the outline of the land masses on the actual puzzle pieces was not nearly so big as portrayed on the initial sketch; the Earth is more accurately depicted as a water planet.



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Gary also attended the open house and shared that the teens were aware that the Cocheco Mill and indoor pool are right on a tidal river and that that water physically connects Dover to the larger world.

Arts commission representatives who attended the open house focused on the teen-directed idea that native peoples also need to be represented in the mural and their decision to include a Mi'kmaq prayer to provide extra context for the viewing public. The students were very open to sharing their vision with anyone and welcomed a proposal for adding an explanatory plaque.

Moving to new discussion, Gary and citizen Paul Cox shared that they had met with the artist very early on in the process and had requested an aquatic theme to complement work at the Henry Law Adventure Playground. The arts commission representatives were asked what guidance they had offered to the artist and they replied that the basic theme was "to be meaningful to the teens." No connection to the pool or water was ever mentioned. One DPAC representative asked if the mural would have any connection to the existing cultural/recreational/historical elements at or near Henry Law Park or if it would be an entirely new element; the best response seems to be that the mural probably has little connection to existing resources, but would add an important new element. Paul Cox shared that he was hoping that the aquatic theme was going to be stronger, but he indicated that he was open to opportunities for fine tuning of the project as proposed.

Tim made a motion to indicate that the Dover Pool Advisory Committee supports the continuing efforts behind development of a mural along the outside wall of the Dover Indoor Pool along Henry Law Avenue and looks forward to a continued dialog with the artist. Christophe seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.

Reports:

Gary:

His budget presentation to the city council will be on April 18. The budget he initially proposed was cut by the city manager. Additional cuts might be made and/or the fee for lessons might need to be raised. The final budget should be approved by mid-May.

Mick:

Spring lessons have begun. Slots filled very quickly.

The Easter pool party was well attended.

Efforts to find and recruit new staff members continue.

School vacation is next week; staffing shortages will need to be met by Mick and Kelsey.

Preparations at the outdoor pool have begun. It should be ready for SSA in mid-May.

Issues with locker rooms and lessons have again been raised. In response, printed guidelines for parents were distributed and pool managers spoke to parents on day 1 of lessons. These include asking that parents not bring their children in for lessons more than 15 minutes ahead of lesson start time,



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awareness of separate family changing rooms off the lobby, and reiteration of age limits of under 4 years when a mother brings a son into the ladies' locker room or a father brings a daughter into the men's locker room.

Long-Range Planning: No updates.

Finance and Budget:

Overall, recreation numbers are tracking as in years past. Pool expenses this year are higher than in the past due to the new pool Program Supervisor, but this was factored into the overall recreation budget. The budget line for natural gas is expected to decrease significantly later this year with the installation of the new heating system with its much greater efficiency.

Old Business

Whale Tail:

The structure is complete and will be shipped soon. Engineering for attachment to the building is being revised to lower the cost if possible.

Signage for Olympians:

The Recreation Department has created a draft application form for nomination for all Olympians and Para-Olympians with a strong connection to Dover. This will be reviewed by the city council, made available to the public, and then signs will be made.

A request was made to create a sign inside the outdoor pool facility to acknowledge accomplished swimmers who have used the pool to train.

Mural Status and Decision: Moved above after Citizens Forum

New Business

Spring Schedule:

The schedule will be modified for the next two weeks to accommodate school vacation and SSA time-off.

The soft opening for the outdoor pool is scheduled for June 18 with the full opening on June 25. It was noted that adult swim lessons recently offered by Great Bay Masters have proven to be very popular. The goal is to continue these on Friday evenings.

Storage Building at the Outdoor Pool:

Gary has requested a draft design and price estimate and they should be available very soon. The design is a modified one-car garage that would cost \$6-7,000.



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Other Business

Benches:

The indoor pool is in need of at least 5 benches for locker rooms and the diving well deck. If the total cost exceeds \$1000, a request for bid will be required.

Credit Cards:

...And the wait continues. A test was scheduled to take place at the recreation center, but difficulties with financial tracking were discovered and these need to be addressed. The finance department is trying to create an acceptable format.

Next Meeting:

The agreed upon schedule of meeting on odd months was thrown off by the recent mural discussions. The group agreed to meet in May as scheduled.

Adjournment:

Pat made a motion to adjourn. Sue Medbery seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15.