



**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, September 10, 2018  
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

Call to Order at 7:00PM

### Roll Call

**Attendance:** David Beaulieu, James Boos (Vice –Chair), Martha Haley (Secretary), Brandice Maas (alternate), Peg Purcell (Chair), Aimee Sanderson, Rick Schnable (Alternate), Lindsey Williams (Council Liaison), Aaron Wozmak, Gary Bannon (Director of Recreation), John O’Connor

**Absent:** Mara Allaire, Cindy Imbro, Heather Twombly, Krista Trefethen

**Approval of Minutes for June 11 2018:** motion by J.O’Connor to accept minutes from last meeting, June 11, 2018 , Second by H. Twombly, UA

### Citizen’s Forum:

No citizens present

### Reports

#### Advisory Board

1. John O. reported all the parks he visited were in good order.
2. James Boos reported the platform for the Skate park ramp has been upgraded.
3. Lyndsay Williams reported there is a plan to improve the small park area along the Cochecho River falls abutting the renovations at the TD bank building once the wall next to the falls is replaced.
4. Councilor Williams also reported on the General Sullivan Bridge renovations: The recommendation is to remove and replace the old structure for a biking and pedestrian bridge. The state operates Hilton Park and will work to maintain access to Hilton Park while this while work is in progress.
5. Martha Haley reported the repairs needed at Alden Woods Playground structure have not yet been addressed. Gary stated he would check into this with Facilities and Grounds staff.
6. David Beaulieu reported he met with the engineering company that is doing the work at Willand Pond area, and asked that the area be cleaned up. There are many trees that have fallen and are just laying along the trail. He also asked if the entrance gate could be upgraded to allow easier access.
7. Peg reported that there are cricket balls getting over the fence into the dog park.



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

Gary reported that Willand Pond is a part of the protected land water conservation fund, and must meet certain standards of maintenance. For example, the entrance gate is not ADA compliant. Remediation must take place when the water access project is ongoing. There are a few projects ongoing that are impacting several park spaces that are covered by this fund. Gary is in the process of developing a list and inventory.

Amanda Howard Park: Gary held a neighborhood meeting with residents and a representative from the Planning Department. The landscape and the shape of the park are cumbersome. A portion of the park is actually a part of a neighbor's property, and will be (in the future) purchased from this individual. The trees were examined by Urban Tree Service to determine which should be removed. Plans are being developed after input from the neighborhood meeting.

Guppy Park Softball Field: Overhead lights have been permanently shut off due to safety issues. This park is scheduled for major renovations.

The July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration was well-attended and the 39<sup>th</sup> Army Band put on a great show. The fireworks were visible to many more people as the removal of the bluff on River Street project helped open up the views toward Maglaras Park where the fireworks were launched from.

### **Assistant Recreation Director: Krista Trefethen**

Gary reported in Krista's absence: The summer playground programs and the various summer camps were very busy. The staff worked very hard to meet the needs of all those who participated. September is Senior Center Month. Trips have been booked into next fall. The trips always fill up quickly, and serve as a good money-maker for the Senior Center. A new bus has been ordered for use by the Senior Center for upcoming trips, and is due for delivery later this month. The Recreation Department has a Facebook page; members were encouraged to check it out.

### **Old Business:**

**Waterfront Park and Dock Status:** The new paddle sports dock has been used extensively this summer. The Dock Doctors company will be coming back to adjust the angle of the end of the dock to reduce the impact with the river traffic. There is a green flashing light on the end of the dock for visibility at night. Gary is also having a flood light installed to shine on the dock at night. The plan for the park is in the final stages of design. The next step will be to send it to the State for permitting, looking ahead to begin work in the spring.



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**Skatepark Relocation Process:** Blasting of the bluff will resume this fall. An intern in the Rec department worked on a relocation plan this summer. Gary is working with the Planning Department and James Boos on a potential new location, and will keep the Board informed as the process progresses.

**Veteran's Park Update:** The next phase of the park is being designed. There is a plan to include in the Veteran's Park a directory of all the Veteran's Memorials throughout the city. This will be the first of the City-wide way-finding signage.

### **New Business:**

**Fall Program Planning:** The McConnell Center gym floor was just refinished. The fall sports leagues are underway, using City and School facilities. The new DHS gym will be used for some of the programs.

**Henry Law Park Playground Work:** Playground shade sails: contract has been awarded. There will be 2 shade structures installed, to create space to get out of the sun. There are plans to do more to the gundalow. The Rotary Pavilion signage was improved, and the stage was repainted. The mural along the side of the building along Henry Law Avenue was completed this summer and will be attached to the building once a plan is completed. The Whale's Tail: Gary is still in the process of planning the installation, which must meet standards to withstand winds of 105 MPH. The cost to properly install the Whale's Tail will be \$42,000. Gary is working with the donor of the sculpture to secure funding through donations.

**Dog Park Shelter:** The gazebo structure is currently located behind the old DHS, but must be moved before demolition of the old school occurs. The structure must be partially taken apart to move it, but the structure in its current form is not appropriate for the Dog Park. Gary will attempt to use the gazebo at another park, and build a suitable shelter for the Dog Park at a future date.

**Staffing Changes:** Dolly Moore, the front desk receptionist at the Indoor Pool has retired after 20 years in this position. Laura Rowe, the Office Manager at the Recreation Department, is retiring after 40 years in the position. There were 250 applicants for the position. Gary has worked with staff to reduce the finalists to 3, and a decision will be made this week.

**Adjourn:** Motion by M. Haley to adjourn, second by A. Sanderson UA  
Adjourn at 8: 20 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha J Haley, Secretary