



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, October 08, 2018
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

Call to Order at 7:00PM

Roll Call

Attendance: David Beaulieu, Martha Haley (Secretary), Cindy Imbro, Peg Purcell (Chair), Heather Twombly (Alternate), Rick Schnable (Alternate), Lindsey Williams (Council Liaison), Aaron Wozmak, Gary Bannon (Director of Recreation)

Absent: James Boos, Brandy Maas, John O'Connor, Aimee Sanderson

Approval of Minutes for September 10, 2018

Motion to approve by C.Imbro, second by D. Beaulieu, UA

Citizen's forum:

No citizens present

Reports

Advisory Board

- Rick Schnable reports he checks WPS Park every week, and he noted the park has been looking great all year.
- Peg reported Longhill Park is a mess, many beer cans and trash around. There appears to be night time partying activity. Dog park and tennis courts are in good shape.
- Lindsey reports Stoneyfield Farms has given a \$5000 donation to upgrade Woodman Park ball field, using organic practices.

Recreation Director: Gary Bannon

Gary reports fall programs are officially underway. There were 2 Recreation Department booths at Apple Harvest Day, one for the Rec Department and one for Senior Center. The location of the booths worked out well this year. At Apple Harvest Day Gary had information to share about several projects underway, including the Waterfront Park, Veteran's Park and the Whale's Tail.

Gary shared an update on the Whale's Tail installation. The final estimate for installation on the roof is at \$38,000. The majority of this money needs to be raised. The artist has a connection that may be able to raise a portion of the funds needed for installation.

The Gazebo: Needs to be moved soon, prior to demo of old DHS. The gazebo will be partially dismantled, and moved to storage until an optimal location is determined.

Amanda Howard Park renovations: The City has approached the property owner who currently owns a portion of the 'park' space. Trees have been assessed and some will be removed or trimmed.

Preliminary discussions have taken place with the abutting property owner.



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Garrison School renovations project: There was an issue that arose over the summer, when a baseball field was torn out and the beginnings of a twin basketball court was being constructed. Gary intervened, and the original baseball field will be restored, as there is a greater need for this type of field vs. basketball courts.

Assistant Director: Krista Trefethen

Gary reports fall programs sign-ups are underway. Adult leagues signups have also begun. Krista works closely with Peter Wotton to coordinate use of gym space. Senior fitness classes are underway. There is a new preschool program coming called 'Bi-lingual Boogey'. This program combines language and movement education to teach preschoolers, and will be held in the McConnell Center fitness studio. Senior Center trips are underway and well-attended.

Old Business:

Waterfront Park Status: Gary shared updated drawings and plans. Bids will go out in the spring. There has been a lot of time and effort expended in the planning of this project, to ensure the best park and building to meet the needs of the community. The paddle sports dock angle will be adjusted in mid-November, prior to being removed for the winter. Rick asked for clarification regarding allowance for rising waters of the river in the future. Gary assured us these issues have been taken into consideration when planning the park.

Skatepark Relocation Process: Relocation discussions are making progress. There is still time to use the current park during continued work on the Bluff area. Lindsey reported there are several City council members who are advocating for the Skate Park.

Veterans Park Update: Gary shared plans for Phase 2 of the park, for additional brick installation, with hopes that it will be done for Veteran's Day. The bid for the extension has been awarded to the same contractors, and the new shipment of bricks is ready for installation. Included in the expansion in the future will be a sign showing the locations of all the other veteran's memorials throughout the city.

Henry Law Playground Work: A shade sail has been added in the area of the musical instruments. Another will be added to the area adjacent to the splash pad. The shade sails will be removed for the winter.

New Business

Willand Pond Water Project: The City is working on tying in the Willand Pond into the water supply system for the city. This will involve building a pump station building and installing pipe lines around the



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pond area. Gary stated he believed the trail system will not be impacted by the construction. There will be renovations to the front gate area to improve accessibility.

Staffing Updates: Laura Rowe, the Recreation Office Manager, retired after 40 years working for the City. After an exhaustive search, the new Office Manager was chosen, Karen Lavertu, who was in a position with the City of Dover as the City Clerk/Tax Collector. Also longtime Indoor Pool front desk attendant, Dolly Moore retired after 20 years on the job back in August. Finding life guards to staff the pool is a challenge. As well as Zamboni Drivers at the Arena and part time staff in general. Lindsey asked if a Dover Download story would help to attract applicants.

CIP Projects: There are some funds allocated for general park improvements. Some items that need to be addressed include new signage for parks, repairs and renovations to Guppy Park, McConnell Center projects.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by M.Haley, second by R.Schnable, UA
Adjourn at 8:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Martha J Haley, Secretary