

City of Concord Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes from October 15, 2015 Meeting

Committee Members: Althea Barton, Counselor Gail Matson, City Counselor Candace Bouchard, Lauren Fielder, Chiara Dolcino, Marilyn Fraser, Amelia Martin Brock and Mayor Bouley

Staff Members: David Gill, Parks and Recreation Director and Laura Bryant, Recreation Supervisor

Meeting was called to order at 5:20 pm

New Business:

- 1. Review Questions raised at last meeting:** In reviewing the September minutes David asked for follow up information on the pickleball concern at Beaver Meadow. Marilyn indicated she wanted to make sure everyone knows about the many options and locations to play. David and Laura indicated they will do a better job with advertising options. Laura stated the department now has an email list of over 100 players and most play weekly. David also reminded everyone that minutes and agendas are posted online in the city committee section and not listed under parks and rec.
- 2. Pool Review:** Laura passed out a copy of the pool survey responses (see attached) Committee reviewed them and indicated no real surprises from the results. The committee discussed pros and cons of possibility having a pool converted to a splash pad. Councilor Bouchard asked if it would be possible to have a concept drawing created to have a conversation with the pool users next summer. David will look into it.
- 3. Fall Soccer Registrations** Laura reviewed fall soccer numbers and the changes to the registration process. She indicated the fall soccer program had just over 500 players and admitted the team registration process was confusing to parents and the department will go back to individual registrations and try to create teams by schools. There was a discussion regarding how parents also ask for kids to be place on teams and how it was sometimes hard for staff to meet everyone's needs. Committee members indicated they had also heard allot of questions about the registration process. Laura indicated that basketball registration is underway and the registration process is by individual and not by team for the majority of the leagues.
- 4. Concept Plans for Terrill, Martin and Memorial Field:** David passed out a handout of the three parks with lines representing size of fields that can fit into each area (see handout). Overview if the committee desires new rectangular fields he recommends multipurpose ones. The two parks that have space to add fields are: Martin Park and Terrill Park. If built these fields could fit a field that would accommodate the following sports: field hockey, soccer, football, girls and boys lacrosse. David indicated each field would cost no more than \$400,000 to build plus marginally increase in yearly operating

costs. The committee looked at Memorial Field and without relocating several of the current fields, courts and having increased parking it would be very expensive to add capacity there. David indicated the cost to add capacity at Memorial Field could be several millions dollars.

Ongoing Business

1. **Rolfe Pool Renovations:** General Services Department is coordinating project for the city. Project should be done for the beginning of the 2016 Pool season. Althea asked if David could talk with GSD and have them add a project page on the web site highlighting the pool renovation project. David indicated he would and everyone thought it was a great idea. The committee also asked if Parks and Rec could link to their home page as they do not think the community would think to go to the General Services site for update on pools. David said he could take care of that once site has been created.
2. **Skate House:** no update. Waiting for final plan to be presented by H.L. Tuner Group
3. **Skate Park Planning Meeting:** no update
4. **New Community Center Planning:** Mayor Bouley indicated he is hoping to have a more modest design and cost presented to City Council by spring 2016. Committee was very happy the community center project is still being considered as it remains their top priority.

Respectfully submitted by David Gill