

RECREATION BOARD MINUTES 8-18-21

The August 18th, 2021 meeting of the Portsmouth Recreation Board was held in the Senior Activity Center at 125 Cottage St. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members in Attendance: Chairman Carl Diemer, Jackie Cali-Pitts, Tara Kennedy, Rich Duddy, Kory Sirmaian, Recreation Director Todd Henley

Members Excused: Deaglan McEachern, Rich Blalock, Bob Bogartus

Guests: Barry Foley, Assistant Recreation Director; Lexy VanBinsbergen, Pool Supervisor; Tim Bailey, Spinnaker Supervisor; Brinn Chute, Senior Services Coordinator; Bridget Crompton, Administrative Clerk

Actions/Discussions:

- Introduction of staff including Lexy and Bridget who have not been to a Rec Board meeting in a long time
- Pickleball
 - Recreation Director gave update on construction of new pickleball courts
 - Recreation Director gave update on ongoing issues related to the pickleball courts
 - Discussion on how to properly regulate new courts, ie schedule, how many courts allowed, tournament use, lessons, etc.
 - Referred to Recreation Director to compile list of rules and regulations based on local other courts and proper usage
- Skatepark
 - Recreation Director gave update on Skatepark Blue Ribbon Committee
 - Pillar Design has been hired to do a feasibility study and design
 - Discussion on funds needed for a park and phased approaches
 - Recreation Director updated that there are no identified funds for this project yet
- Updated Recreation Needs Study
 - Recreation Director updated that Placework was awarded the RFQ

- Placework uses Horsley Witton as their consultant and will be doing the input studies
- More info to come soon about input sessions
- Updates
 - General – New Rec offices at Senior Center, new program guide, fall programming expanding
 - Spinnaker Point – covid spacing/restrictions, 600+ members are back, pickleball, classes starting soon, members pleased with improvements
 - Boat Launch/Docks – very popular, will continue on into fall
 - Senior Center – Bridget at front desk, 20 activities a week, new newsletter, dissolving Senior Subcommittee, room rentals are already getting busy, Brinn updated on Holiday parade as well
 - Connie Bean Center – opening after Labor Day, youth soccer moving to new turf field, looking towards basketball returning
 - Indoor Pool – closed still due to leak and repairs that are ongoing but looking to open in fall, staffing shortage, hours may be impacted
 - Outdoor Pool – closes Aug 20, Harry Hobbs 43 years of service
- Other
 - Chairman informed group of withdrawal of letter to council that would name Athletic Field for Rus Wilson per family request
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.