

RECREATION BOARD MINUTES 10-20-21

The October 20th, 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 (zoom), Jackie Cali-Pitts, Tara Kennedy (zoom), Bob Bogartus, Rich Duddy, Kory Sirmaian (zoom), Recreation Director Todd Henley.

Members Excused: Deaglan McEachern, Rich Blalock, Kathie Lynch

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:

- Outdoor Pool House Project Update
 - Presentation by Peter Rice & Joe Almeida, from DPW
 - Prices have climbed for construction and the previous plan to build a new pool house is out of reach. Need to fix aquatics though first.
 - Current pool house will be renovated/updated starting this winter.
 - Going to tear down existing filter/pump house and rebuild along far side of pool.
 - Was \$3 million for project, now up to \$4.5 million. City has \$3 million currently bonded, so looking for additional \$1.5 to fund project.
 - Work will include new gutter, liner, pump house, filters, pool deck, etc.
 - New Pool House project estimated at over \$8 million, so that is the reasoning for just doing aquatics.
 - Fall of 2022 work will commence
- Community Campus Discussion
 - Recreation Director gave update on the City's purchase of the Community Campus
 - All current tenants will remain.

- Families First moving in February
- Recreation Department would be overseeing the building/property
- There will be staffing needs and budgetary increases
- Great opportunity for the Department to grow and increase services for the community
- Updates
 - Indoor Pool – opening November 2nd. Understaffed currently so hours are adjusted. Rentals have some limitations.
 - Skateboard Park – Collecting input through October. Detailed updated plan in November from Pillar. Skatepark group doing a great job fundraising.
 - Recreation Needs Study – Finalized scope and fees with Consulting group. They will meet with the Recreation Board at their next meeting. Looking to start public input sessions in January.
 - Pickleball Courts – Rules were posted on new signs at courts. Issues seem to be down since posting. Board needs to take up rentals/tournaments/events at upcoming meeting. Will need plastic shovels for snow removal this winter. New tennis nets installed too.
- Other
 - PFAs testing at turf field – Updated Board about Council request for additional testing for PFAs at field. Board is confident in the product received and will be in support of the field and not needing additional testing. Field at High School has been used for years.
 - Fall Family Fun Fest will be October 23rd at new field. Food, games, entertainment, petting zoo, crafts, etc. Excited for new event.
 - Veteran’s Breakfast on November 10th at Senior Center
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.