

RECREATION BOARD MINUTES 8/17/22

The August 17, 2022 meeting of the Portsmouth Recreation Board was held at the Senior Activity Center located at 125 Cottage St. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members in Attendance: Chairman Carl Diemer, Councilor Rich Blalock, Jackie Cali-Pitts, Rich Duddy, Brian French, Kathie Lynch, Lauren Krans, Kory Sirmaian, Recreation Director Todd Henley.

Members Excused: Bob Bogartus

Guests: Brinn Sullivan, Assistant Director; Lexy VanBinsbergen, Pool Supervisor; Tim Bailey, Spinnaker Point Supervisor; Bridget Crompton, Office Manager;

Public Comment: Andrea Amico spoke in support of installing signage at the turf field to educate and inform on pediatric health positions

Actions/Discussions:

- Update on Recreation Needs Study
 - Alice Carey, from Placework, gave an update on the progress of the Recreational Needs Study.
 - She reviewed the scope of their project, a summary of initial public input and what the next steps are.
 - Four tasks – existing conditions, public engagement, needs assessment, and compilation of resources and final report.
 - She spoke about the first public workshop and how it was not well attended and some strategies for the next one.
 - Discussion by board about different ways to gather input or hold meeting.
 - Placework will come to next meeting with ideas on how to gather more info and meeting options.

- Request for Signage at Turf Field
 - Board provided letter requesting posting of signage at turf field that would display safety tips that can be taken while recreating on an artificial turf or player warning signs.
 - Much discussion about what this would mean to other fields and locations in the city. Specific to turf field but the independent testing results showed no danger to public.
 - Board moved to not approve request – 7 nays, 1 abstention

- Board moved to have Recreation Director check with Legal about any signage that would be needed for anything at turf field – passed unanimously.
- Turf Field Utilization Update
 - Recreation Supervisor Nick Lawrence provided the Board with an update on the usage of the turf field.
- Staff Update
 - Summer recap and fall preview of programs from all aspects of the department – Indoor Pool, Spinnaker, Senior Center, Outdoor Pool and Campus. .
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.