

**City of Concord Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2022**

**Committee Members:** Althea Barton, Chiara Dolcino, Chair Mary Miller, Nick Kotkowski, City Councilor Candace White Bouchard, Marilyn Fraser, Jennifer Roff, Andrew Doyle.

Staff Members: David Gill, Parks & Recreation Director, Laura Bryant, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director and Heather Shank, City Planner

Meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by Chair Mary Miller

Minutes approved as written from the December meeting.

**New Business:**

**Splash Pad Concept for White Park:** RPAC members had a chance to look over the renderings for the new splash pad at White Park. The concept is to convert the existing pool to a splash pad for the 2023 season. The plans call for repurposing the existing structure (pool house), filling in the depth of the pool and adding water features. Currently there is 550,00.00 in next years CIP for this project. The current quote comes in at 650K with an additional 100K if the buildings were also to be updated. Candace asked about number of users, David suspects it would be around 75-100 at a time. RPAC members supported the splash pad staffed at all times and free to residents only. RPAC is in full support of the project but doesn't think the additional 100K to update the building is necessary at this time.

**Year in Review:** Prior to the email David emailed out the Year in review to RPAC. The document shares the successes the department had in 2021 despite the struggles with Covid. David asked RPAC members to review and send any updates to him before the document is shared with City Council at the February meeting.

**Update on Registration Waiver:** In response to the letter received from Jon Kelly the legal department has drafted a new waiver for program participants. David let RPAC know there were still a couple things to work out with Rec Trac to make sure the new waiver would translate to our online system. Once that is all worked out David will make Jon Kelly aware of the update.

**FY23 Fee and Charges Review:** David shared an updated spreadsheet with RPAC, currently we are below market in many areas. He recommended we increase rental rates at West Street Ward House, Resident Non-profit leagues, athletic fields and staff maintenance fee. Chiara motioned to accept Nick seconded, approved.

**CIP Review:** David reviewed a handout with Park CIPs listed for FY21, FY22 and possible projects for FY23> First up was an update about the White Park maintenance building that was approved in FY21 but not funded due to COVID concerns. David is working with City Manager regarding the life-safety concerns, if City Manager is supportive David will bring it to City Council to bond.

David highlight the current projects that have been funded in this year's CIP (FY23).

Next David spoke about the upgrades to the new riverfront park (CIP567) in Penacook (former Tannery Site). Interviews for a design team will start next week. Althea asked David if he received an email form a Penacook resident about linking the 2 parks. David indicted he is hoping to include funds in FY23 budget for improvements to the current Riverfront Park in Penacook as he would like the park improvements to match the new park that will be designed this year.

David highlighted his request for the FY23 CIP.

CIP52 Keach Park: \$160,000 to convert the tennis court to soccer min pitch

CIP55 Rolfe Park: \$15,000 to convert court lights to LED

CIP56 Rollins Park: \$15,000 to convert court lights to LED

CIP60 Kiwanis: \$250,000 for Master Plan as requested by RPAC and Arena Committees

CIP557 Memorial Field: \$600,000 for new track (50% could be from other/grant)

David also spoke about projects that are reliant on matching funds such as Monkey Around playground, the Groomer for Beaver Meadow and Terrill Park. Mary asked about the football bleachers at Memorial Field, David indicated a report coordinated by GSD and the HL Turner Group a couple of years ago found to be structurally safe, the baseball bleachers did have areas of concern.

RPAC wants to make a recommendation on how to proceed but decided to wait to have a more in-depth conversation at next meeting. Chiara motioned to table the conversation is was seconded by Mary, approved. Mark asked David about signs for the city parks, David said he would request signs in the FY23 budget.

David spoke briefly about upcoming winter events. Conditions for Black Ice look promising. Winter Carnival, Ski the Beav XC ski race and another Covid vaccine clinic are all on the horizon. Great to see so many favorite events back!

Mary made a motion to adjourn meeting at 6:50pm, seconded by Marilyn, passed.

Summited by Parks and Recreation Director David Gill