

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on June 18, 2020 remotely via Zoom.

- Present: Dr. Nosker, Dr. Cahill, Ms. Germaine, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Koontz, Mr. Burt, & Ms. Rogers
- Also Present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Paulucci, Mr. Parker, Mr. Uchrin, Mr. DiFerdinando, Mr. Sutter, Mr. Grosser & Ms. Caines
- Absent: Mr. Young & Dr. Frawley

Public Comment

- George DiFerdinando, Chair of Board of Health made the following comments:
 - We are in for a long haul. We will be living with the virus for quite a while. Planning will need to be continually modified as guidance is revisited and updated.
 - We can't make things safe, only make them safer. Intermingling during exercise has potential of some risk of spreading communicable disease.
 - Acknowledged that Covid-19 is not the only risk to youth. There is also the risk of no-exercise, isolation and risky behavior.
 - Board of Health's job is to warn residents about the risks and educate them.
 - It is conceivable that Health Department staff could get overwhelmed if case count rises to a certain point.
- Mr. Stentz made the following comments:
 - The state requires social distancing of patrons in and out of the water. This is difficult to maintain in a public swim setting and is counter-intuitive behavior for youth, in particular. He asked how concerning that possibility is to Dr. DiFerdinando. Dr. DiFerdinando responded that distance, duration, dose and being in an enclosed space are major components in determining the risk. We need to keep the sick out of the complex, keep people apart from each other as much and often as possible. We need a plan and patrons need to behave and cooperate. Mr. Stentz expressed his doubt that staff efforts to impose social distancing on patrons will be effective.
- Jeff Grosser, Municipal Health Officer, reported on the following:
 - CP Pool is unique in that it appeals to a wide swath of Princeton Community
 - Capacity guidelines for pools are currently in question based on info from the state
 - Concerns:
 - Enforcement of guidelines
 - How will we respond to uptick in the number of positive cases
 - Need to identify symptomatic people and keep them home – Role of the Ambassador
 - Confident that PRD can handle opening the pool as the guidelines are currently established
 - PRD correct to move slow as guidance is evolving.
- Dr. Nosker inquired as to the staff's plan for the operation & financial implications
 - Mr. Stentz provided an update. *Discussion was held.*

- Mr. Williamson raised the question of the municipalities liability should a staff or patron claim they contracted the virus at CP Pool.
- Dr. Cahill inquired about a reservation system for swimmers to book spots online.
- Dr. Nosker inquired as to potential financial responsibility of Commission regarding a difficult season.
 - Mr. Stentz suggested to possibility of deferring the Commission's annual 75K payment to the municipality.
- Dr. Cahill asked if there could be a segmented approach to opening the pool in 2-week increments.
- Dr. Cahill favors ala carte pay as you go structure (rather than a membership) and then we reserve the right to pull the plug if things do not go as planned financially.
 - Mr. Uchrin reminded the Commission about the swim lesson schedule that extends beyond 2-weeks.
- Mayor Lempert voiced her appreciation to the Commission for their consideration and expressed her hope that the pool can be open if deemed safe and financially prudent.
- Dr. Nosker expressed his concern about masks and whether we can force people to wear them. Mr. Stentz expressed his concerns about the viability of requiring masks to be worn.
- The following public comment was received:
 - Jeff Bergman (Dodds Ln) inquired as to use of the baseball fields
 - The following residents with affiliation to the Xcel swim Club expressed their desire for the pool to open this summer; Annie Hong (Albert Way), Camilla Trolle, Jenny Xie (Autumn Hill Rd), Jocelyn Yen (Rolling Mead) and Eric Ristad (Parkside Rd)
 - The following Non-Residents with affiliation to the Xcel Swim Club expressed their desire for the pool to open this summer; Danny Kim, Jenny Liu, Lina Deleger, Phyllis Bernard, SiPei Le, Yi Qi, Phil Kim and Yon Xia.
 - Dina Shaw (Clover Ln) spoke in favor of opening the pool for set blocks of time
 - Stephanie Chorney (Race St) would like to see the pool open for residents and not to focus on the needs of the private swim clubs.

Activities Report

- There were no reports in addition to those items in the agenda packet:

Director's Report

- Mr. Stentz reported on the following:
 - Due to technical difficulties at the municipal offices, Recreation Staff were dropped from the Zoom meeting multiple times.

Old Business

- No Old Business

New Business

Discussion was held. The Commission requested that the staff come back to the next meeting with a plan that considers how best to open the pool facility for shorter blocks of time, with capacity limits and using the daily admission (pay as you go) model in 2-week increments.

The following items were tabled:

- CP Pool: 2020 Operation
- CP Pool Revised Fees & Policies for summer 2020
- RT Reserve Request: CP Pool

Communications

Communications shared in agenda packet

Approval of Minutes

- *Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the Commission minutes of May 14, 2020 seconded by Mr. Williamson and approved.*

Approval of Bills

- *Mr. Williamson made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Ms. Germaine and approved.*

Next Meeting Date

June 24, 2020