

**TOWN OF NEWBURGH
PARK BOARD
MINUTES AUGUST 10, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Ann Wilsbacher; Kevin Reine; Wanda Kavanaugh

ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENT: Kristen Head, Attorney; Dave Harris, Pool Ambassador; Brittany Carroll Kiersten Menke, Pool Co-Managers; Leanna Hughes, Town Council Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Wilsbacher called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Roll was called. A quorum was present.

MINUTES

Mrs. Kavanaugh moved to adopt the minutes as presented. Mr. Reine seconded the motion and it carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pool Use Guidelines

Ms. Carroll noted that the section concerning t-shirts and no street clothes is a contradiction. Mr. Harris suggested the section say no street clothes allowed, but t-shirts are permitted.

Ms. Head suggested the section that requires children 12 and under be accompanied by a person 18 or older be increased to 14. She said the state law is now 14. Ms. Carroll said if that is changed, the town should edit the pool flyer to indicate the new age.

Mrs. Wilsbacher asked if the prohibition on coolers would be a problem. She noted that people used the wheeled coolers to carry supplies other than food and drinks. Jeannie Kellems from Cleo's reported that she saw a lot of food and drinks coming into the pool this past summer.

Mr. Harris said many people bring in their own because of the cost of concessions. He suggested the pool and concessionaires work closer together, like having a Hot Dog Day, where the cost of hot dogs at the concession stand is reduced.

Ms. Carroll suggested a Concession Happy Hour.

She also suggested a larger sign for the concession area.

Concerning the required shower before entering the pool area, Mrs. Wilsbacher asked if that is a state requirement. Mr. Harris said that needs to be posted even if it is not enforced. Mrs. Wilsbacher said the letters must be a minimum of one inch high.

Ms. Carroll also suggested stocking swim diapers for sale, since the new rules would require children not potty trained to wear them in the pool. Mrs. Hughes suggested addressing the problem if and when it arises.

Mrs. Head said she is reviewing the smoking ban. She is not sure if e-cigarettes are prohibited. She suggested the Town Council might pass an ordinance prohibiting use of e-cigarettes at the pool. Ms. Carroll said the sign prohibiting smoking needs to be repaired.

As the proposed policy is written now, alcohol is prohibited in the shelter house. Mr. Harris said pool management should warn patron of this and if it is ignored, call NPD. Ms. Menke said glass containers are a problem now.

Mrs. Wilsbacher said on August 1 there was water coming up on both locker room floors. It moved with each flush of a toilet. Mrs. Kavanaugh said a pair of underwear was found inside the drain pipe. Staff sanitized the floors after that. Rain checks were issued. Mrs. Wilsbacher said that happened late in the day, so the pool was only closed 90 minutes early.

The board discussed adding a 10-minute adult-only swim at 3 p.m. Mr. Harris said the break would give the guards a chance to check the pool.

Slide use was next on the list. The consensus was if people can swim, they can use the slide. The manager will decide if it is safe for anyone to use the slide, such as a person with prosthesis.

Ratios of adults to children: The board should not be counted as an adult when considering the supervisor to child ratio. Mrs. Head said state law requires a supervisor be at least 18 and the pool staff may ask for proof of age.

Mrs. Hughes suggested that groups of 15 or more be required to pre-register 72 hours ahead and be limited to a specific time frame. The number of groups per time frame can be limited by managers. Ms. Menke asked if the pool could be closed to the public when the Garden School is there. The board agreed that would not be a plausible idea.

The Garden School is a good pool client and should be worked with, Mrs. Kavanaugh said. Mr. Reine said the director needs to understand she must schedule her group, which she always does, and cancel ahead of time if they are not coming the appointed day. Mrs. Wilsbacher said that conversation has already taken place.

Check in form: The proposed form looks good to Mrs. Kavanaugh and Mrs. Wilsbacher but the age for chaperones needs to be changed to 18 unless the person is a certified lifeguard. Mrs. Head will check the legal definition of a responsible adult. It may be 16.

Mr. Harris would like a spot on the group check in form where the manager can make comments for future reference. The form can be pre-filled in for check in but the leader needs to check out when leaving with the group.

There was concern about children who cannot swim well enough being in the 10-foot well. The board recommended guards watching participants and pulling aside those who seem to be weak swimmers and asking them to swim across the pool. If they have trouble with that, the guard may tell the swimmer to stay out of the deep water until they practice more. The board and staff do not want to call it a swim test.

The managers suggested several ideas for getting more pool participation.

- They would like to rearrange the swim club practice times to open up Wednesday nights for Family Swim Times.
- They would like to offer "Critter Camp" once a week for all day.
- They would like for kids to decorate new trash cans. It could be a school art project and hold a showing for parents, etc. They suggested second graders for the artists.
- They would like a theme day once a week. Pool visitors could help choose the next theme with paper ballots.
- They would like July 4 to be a game day, with a variety of family-friendly activities and a sandcastle contest.
- They would like employees hired earlier so training could be provided before the pool opens.
- They would like parents to check out life jackets and leave ID to guarantee the gear returns.
- They suggested "Noodle Time." There have been numerous complaints since pool noodles were banned. Noodle Time could be scheduled for a slow time during the day.
- They suggested a Happy Hour at the concession stand with reduced prices.
- They thought the last half-hour the pool is open would be a great time to offer half price admission. Perhaps it would encourage more lap swimmers.
- They also would like to offer a swim lesson discount for families with multiple sessions scheduled. They suggested a discount for the final session for which students register.
- They would like a white board outside to write messages.

Mrs. Wilsbacher said the board needs to contact the Town Council about pulling weeds. Mrs. Kavanaugh said guards have been responsible for that in the past. Several ideas were posted.

Bids have been received for the roof at the shelter house but she didn't know if they have been reviewed.

Mr. Harris said he commends the co-managers for a job well-done this past pool season. He said whenever he was on site, the area was clean and safe.

He offered to serve as pool ambassador next summer. Mrs. Wilsbacher said the board will consider that and get back to him and Ms. Menke and Ms. Carroll.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Wilsbacher said the shelter house roof needs to be resolved as soon as possible. The shelter is leaning at the Fortress of Fun. That roof was damaged by a falling tree. The roof on the pool house is in need of repair, too.

The trees that need to be taken down are marked, she said.

ADJOURN

Mrs. Wilsbacher adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.


Chair

Recorder