

Merrimack Pool Annual Meeting
Thursday, July 12, 2018
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:50pm by President, Cris Weals. Approximately 65 Equity Members were in attendance which provided the ten percent of membership necessary for a quorum under the bylaws.

It was a lot of work with several obstacles and delays put in our path getting the final construction permit, delays with making required changes to the wall and fence, issues with the new locker rooms, but the pool opened at 2:00pm the day before scheduled. Thank yous were given to everyone who helped with the opening, and special appreciation was given to the owner of Little Skinny's, Mike Horan, and his daughter KC for successfully opening the Merrimack Snack Bar.

Cris Weals asked if there were questions, then requested approval of the minutes from last year's Annual Meeting. A motion was made to approve, then seconded, and the minutes from last year were unanimously approved.

David Seltzer, incoming President, gave recognition to the outgoing board members. He thanked Brian Moore for his service though he could not be at the meeting. Kerry White has been very active on the Board and in the community. She does everything from changing toilet paper, to taking out the garbage, to planting gardens, and will be sorely missed. Cris Weals announced that Kerry has the longest tenure on the Board for finishing her husband's term, then presented her with some gifts including scrub brushes!

David Seltzer expressed sincere appreciation to Cris Weals for being the point person for everything construction during these past years. While it was a labor of love, he spent countless hours tending to every detail. David also recognized Linda Karson for being the primary point-of contact in answering the calls and emails sent by members and outside vendors to the pool generally.

New Board Members were then introduced.

- Siobhan Gonzalez lives adjacent to the pool, has 3 children who are active with swim and dive team, and helps with social events. She says Merrimack Pool is a great place for kids to play unsupervised.
- Katy Hatcher has 3 children, and knows Mike Horan, our snack bar food vendor. She has been coordinating the snack bar operations and private party requests.
- Catherine Bise has been a pool member for 7 years, has 2 girls, and is involved in neighborhood. She would like to see spirit wear make more money and to make it available to all pool patrons and not just swim team.

All were in favor of the new board members and Carl Kress and David Seltzer were approved for a second term to round out the 9-person board. Welcome aboard!

Mike Brooks, MPRA Treasurer, distributed the financial reports and gave an overview of the handouts. He reported that incentives were created for becoming Equity Members to reduce the Full Summer Affiliate waitlist. He advised that the renovation loan can be prepaid without penalty. In 2003 the pool borrowed money with a 10-year loan and paid it off in 8 years. Less money was borrowed this time.

Questions were taken from the membership about balloon payments and Mike also explained the process for payouts when people sell their equity share.

David thanked Mike Brooks for his many years of service as Treasurer, which he does on a volunteer basis. He asked for approval of the budget and it was approved unanimously.

David provided an update on the snack bar and pending items from the renovation project. Some things must be redone at the end of the season. There has been pooling water on the floor in the women's locker room due to the grade and way the floor was put in. Concrete was not taken out and the floor was put on top of the existing slab. The mirrors will be replaced. The patio also needs a redo and will have a stamped brick pattern added during the off-season. In addition, the burrs will be removed that are hard on bare feet. The fence will be painted once the wood has had time to settle.

The snack bar menu items are being enhanced, and another panini grill is being added to speed service. We need the snack bar to be a successful venture, so please patronize it as possible. David encouraged everyone to tell neighbors to consider take-out—the challenge is that non-members cannot enter the pool grounds but members can give them their order. Based on the permit, the snack bar can only serve to members. Plans are to add menu options on the website. A member questioned the snack bar serving liquor but there is not a liquor license. The pool can host events with alcohol but cannot sell it. There are plans to rename the snack bar and to hang signs on the front and side facing the pool for better visibility.

David said he has mixed feelings about allowing Phil, the ice cream truck operator, to continue to sell ice cream from the pool parking lot. Now that we have an onsite vendor the Board has a fiduciary interest in seeing it succeed. There is concern that the ice cream truck could syphon off business from the snack bar. Initially the verbal agreement with the vendor was to not have an ice cream truck. We need the vendor, who operates snack bars at 3 pools, to be successful so that volunteers don't end up running the operation. After 3 weeks, it's too soon to know if our pool is making money at the snack bar. Other pools have camps, tennis, basketball, and volleyball courts so the snack bar provides our pool with a needed enhancement. On the other hand, many at the pool have loyalty to Phil so it's difficult to tell him it will be his last year. There was discussion about giving him a parting gift, asking if he can come fewer times than each hour, and speaking with the snack bar vendor to determine their preferences now that they are in operation and to see what percentage of their sales come from ice cream. David thanked everyone for their input.

Additional comments and questions were taken from the membership.

- There was concern that people are in the in pool after hours. Were the police consulted about the fence design—it does not make it easy to check-out the grounds from the road. David advised that we're looking into adding a security system.
- There was concern about the trash area. David advised that the guards need training to break down boxes and compress the trash so that it takes up less room. However, there's trash from the neighborhood being put in the pool containers. We will see if gates can be added to the front of the trash area.
- It was suggested that more information could be provided to the membership to tell when events are happening so people know when the pool is closed for meets and when there are special events.
- A request was made to move the plants by the dive well because they obscure the area.

Appreciation was expressed to everyone in attendance and a motion was made to adjourn at 8:45pm.