

DRAFT MINUTES
AQUATICS BOARD
Tuesday, August 27, 2019
City & Borough of Juneau – Room 224 – 4pm

Statement of Philosophy:
Create Community through People, Pools and Effective Swim Programs

- A. Meeting Convened at 4:38pm** by Acting Chair Rutecki.
- B. Members Present:** Kristin Bartlett, Don Beard, Corry Isabell, Molly McCormick, Lena Merrell, Tom Rutecki, Tracy Morrison, Will Muldoon, Pat Watt (by telephone)
Members Absent:
Liaison Present: Carole Triem. – CBJ Assembly
Staff Present: Kollin Monahan
- C. Agenda Changes** – No changes.
- D. Approval of Minutes** – Ms. Merrill moved approval of July 23 meeting. No objection, minutes approved.
- E. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items** – None
- F. Aquatics Director Report**
- The Annual Day of Play on August 17 was a great success. Three open swims had overflow attendance. Augustus Brown had 74, up from 24 in 2018. The two at Dimond Park were sold out at 200 for each open swim. The new log rolling equipment was introduced and participants loved it. Kids must be at least 8 to try it. Mr. Rutecki commented that Parks & Rec staff had a sign up table for helicopter rides, and both the Turf Field and Treadwell arena were pretty much filled up.
 - Ads have started to run on KTOO for the pools geared to different audiences: Aquatics facilities and offerings; certifications and training programs; and employment opportunities. Staff are receiving lots of requests for trainings and job applications.
 - Plans are underway for the December 14 Back to School Triathlon geared for middle schoolers. This will be a shortened version of the adult triathlon and will benefit AWARE. Sponsors are Aquatics and local businesses.
 - Bids are being prepared to submit to host the 2020 state meet. Bids are due on November 4 for this annual statewide event for high schools and swim clubs.
 - The electrical outage over the weekend made it necessary to close the pools as the air handling systems became completely overwhelmed. Conditions were really difficult. Mr. Monhan noted that in case the pools need to be evacuated at any time, staff procedures at both pools include grab bags with towels and gathering points at the adjacent high school.
- G. Old Business:** Board schedule.

Members discussed preferences for time, day and location for future Board meetings. Some members work until at least 4:30pm so 4:00pm meetings are a problem. Preferences expressed for meeting at Dimond Park – however, several members work down town so perhaps alternating meetings between the Valley and downtown would be better. Discussed a potential retreat to do annual planning. Decided as follows:

- September Board meeting - 4th Tuesday (9/24) at 5pm at DPAC
- October Board meeting - 4th Sunday (10/27) from 9am – 2pm in the Valley Library meeting room.
 - This will be a planning retreat.
 - Staff will arrange for lunch.
 - Ms. Watt volunteered to assist with agenda design.
- Remaining meetings TBD

H. New Business

- **Election of Officers:** Mr. Muldoon was elected Chair, Ms. Merrill Vice-Chair, and Ms. Watt Secretary.
- **ABP Renovation Update:** Mr. Monahan provided hard copies of the Priority Matrix pages from the Consultant's Condition Survey and Design Narrative. He had previously emailed the complete document to the Board. The Matrix is divided into different scopes of work which are color coded, and then items listed in priority order within the scopes. Priorities 1 and 2 must get done, and priorities 3 and 4 follow those. The goal is to bring the facility up to code and make it ADA compliant and more efficient. The Engineering Project Manager is waiting to hear back for the architect's fee proposal. Mr. Monahan is hoping that bids can be submitted in February/March so that construction can start early summer of 2020. Ms. Watt commented that figuring out how to satisfy all swimmers' pool needs at DPAC during Augustus Brown Pool closure will be a priority job for the Board over the coming months. Ms. Isabell noted that it's important for the Board to be proactive in this project to ensure it sustains full funding and support. Mr. Beard commented that high risk items such as removal of oil tanks and assessing abatement will need to happen early on. The Board feels that a great deal of public education will be required to minimize disruptions to swimmers. Advance thinking is necessary about how to handle pool passes during closure and transportation needs. The Board recommended that staff do a survey of ABP users to find out what they know about the renovation, any plans they have already made, and what their needs will be. The Board would like to see a Timeline for the whole project. Ms. Watt thought it would be good to assign a subcommittee of the Board to keep informed of the details of the project and make reports to the full Board at each meeting. There is a lot of work to be done by both the Board and Aquatics staff.
- **Private lessons:** Mr. Monahan explained that, historically, private individuals have provided one-on-one swim lessons in the pools and received payment on the side. This a common problem for municipal pools and it has many issues including liability as well as difficulties for those seeking individual lessons in finding qualified teachers and dealing with variations in lesson fees. Mr. Monahan is working on developing a policy that would prohibit CBJ's pool employees from seeking payment for providing private lessons in the pools. Ms. Watt asked him to prepare a proposed policy statement for the Board including the rationale for, and explaining changes to, the existing system. Members noted that this won't stop until the pools start offering private lessons and that changes will need to ensure the pool, and teachers, are complying with legal requirements. Mr. Monahan noted that all swim teachers would need to go through an on-boarding process to become fully oriented to CBJ's operating environment and procedures.

I. Board Comments

Ms. Merrill thought it would be good to consider how the pools might be made more accessible by those who currently aren't swimmers – perhaps through such ideas as giving bus riders a discount on admission fees.

Mr. Rutecki said he believed there were some funds from Alaska Air still unspent for ABP. He thought a better clock in that pool would help swimmers with poorer vision.

J. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 5:56pm.

K. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at 5:00pm at Dimond Park Aquatic Center

Meeting Follow-ups:

Next Board meeting: Approve minutes from June 25 in addition to August 27
 Planning for October Retreat

Mr. Monahan Send Rate/Fee Policy to Board members (carry over from July ToDo)