



Ocean Pines Aquatics Advisory Board Committee

Minutes - September 21, 2022 Meeting

In Attendance: Lew Furman, Ellen Em Hensch, Maria Lawrence, Gary Miller

Approval of August '22 Minutes

Maria Lawrence moved to accept and Lew Furman seconded

Approval of September '22 Agenda

Maria Lawrence moved to accept and Lew Furman seconded

Lifeguard Shortage - Discussion

Maria contacted the Stephen Decatur swim team coach to gather information re possible lifeguarding courses. As of this posting, she has not received a response. She will follow-up. The committee broached the subject of swim employee seasonal incentives.

Committee Communications to OP Board and Web Site info@oceanpines.org

Relative to committee commentary and suggestions, no response(s) or acknowledgements of receipt, were received following detailed reporting to the OP Board and posting on info@oceanpines.org. Following the August committee meeting, per advice from Frank Daly, Gary Miller re-submitted to the OP Board the commentary, concerns, and suggestions involving the following:

- Safety re steps at Mumford and Swim and Racquet
- Added exercise class at Sports Core
- Equitable membership options
- Sports Core pool closure
- Repair of Oasis Pool men's room structure (Yacht Club)

Again, as of this posting, no responses have been received. This is a committee concern. 3 attempts to offer commentary in an advisory capacity have gone without response or acknowledgement.

Pool Safety – Steps Discussion

In addition to the hazards previously outlined re the Swim and Racquet portable gangplank-style pool entry, and the steps at Mumford's Landing pool entry, the committee would like to see "standard" **pool-side** ladders installed at Mumford's Landing pool. The type of steps that are built into the wall are very difficult for some to use ... particularly seniors. To use them safely, upper body strength is necessary. It is also easy to slip on these built-in style ladders, which could result in injury. Those who can't use these types of ladders must enter the pool at the pool entrance steps, where children gather and play, and often times block people from entering safely.

Entrance Fees for Children - Discussion

Children under the age of 5, and not associated with a swim membership, enter all OP pools without cost. Issues involving total number of patrons allowed into the pool area were discussed. Potentially, swim members and paying customers, may be denied entrance to an at-capacity venue. It is believed that most pool facilities outside of OP require an entrance fee for anyone over 2 years old. Gary Miller will follow-up to confirm.

Amenity Surveys

Gary Miller advised that John Viola has requested surveying residents involving OP amenities. Josh Davis, OP Marketing and Public Relations Director, has prepared the surveys, and asked for our input re aquatics. The committee told Josh we had no further suggestions.

Committee Applicants Slated for Interviews

There are 3 applicants awaiting either interviews, or committee / board acceptance

New items – Promotion Event(s) - Discussion

Em Hench introduced an idea for a pre-season pool party / special event for residents and others to promote aquatics. The special event could include music, food and drink, other entertainment, officials / department heads on-hand to answer questions or provide presentations, and distribution of “for more info” or sign-up mechanisms for the amenity. The committee encouraged the idea to morph into inclusion of the other amenities. It was agreed the idea required further discussion, fleshing out, and conversations with other advisory committees (golf, racket sports, rec & parks). The general consensus was that such an event could promote a positive view of OP, the value of our amenities, and facilitate community congeniality.

Submitted by Ellen Hench, 9/28/22

Next Meeting October 19, 3pm