Silver Lake Commission
June 24, 2026
5:30 PM
In person & Via Weblink
****DRAFT****

Members' Present
Kathy Doyle
William Ardito
Cary Smith
Anthony Morris
Michael Lewis

Staff & Guests
Nichole Arnold, Parks & Recreation Staff
Roger Ridgeway, Parks & Recreation Director
Aireal Vickers, City of Dover Environmental Scientist
Bryn Wambaugh, City of Dover Environmental Scientist

Absent members
Carolyn Courtney
John DeMarie

Welcome & Call To Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM

Member & Staff Introduction
Brief Introductions around the table.

Meeting Minutes
All meeting minutes were approved, small changes were made.

Dover Police – Park Report Update
No comments or concerns from the Police Department.

Stormwater and earth day updates
Brynn gave an overview of the storm water management plan, DNREC was supposed to be attending the meeting, but they could not attend and suggested Bryn to talk about the plan. MS4 stormwater management program, highlighting its six minimum control measures aimed at improving water quality. The discussion emphasized public education, discharge detection, construction site runoff control, and pollution prevention practices. The program's importance lies in mitigating pollutants entering local water bodies, particularly Silver Lake, through stormwater runoff. Bryn then went onto the stormwater utility and funding challenges. The discussion covered the challenges in implementing stormwater utility fees based on impervious surface area to fund water quality projects. The utility is currently on hold due to funding and administrative issues, with ongoing efforts to update models and manuals. Public outreach and education are planned to improve acceptance and effectiveness of the utility. Future outreach will involve collaboration with public works and community engagement. Aireal discussed recent Earth Week activities focused on stormwater education and community involvement, including children's activities, nature walks, litter pickups, and employee training. Attendance was lower than the previous year, attributed to scheduling conflicts with school breaks. Plans include enhancing outreach through schools and social media to boost participation in future events

Silver lake and St. Jones River discussion
William Ardito presented concerns about Silver Lake's water quality and proposed installing filtration devices such as socks on storm drains and large filters in the lake to reduce pollutants. He highlighted the need for funding, maintenance, and city support to implement this approach. The commission discussed the feasibility, potential benefits, and the necessity of further research and expert consultation before proceeding.

Silver Lake Master Plan and upcoming Dover projects
An update was provided on the Silver Lake Master Plan development, including the completion of public surveys and the imminent release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select a contractor. The plan will focus on playground upgrades, trail

improvements, and water quality. The budget is currently $75,000, with further funding to be sought based on contractor recommendations.

ENDING COMMENTS

The commission agreed to follow up on the filtration proposal by researching similar implementations and consulting with DNREC and the Kent Conservation District. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for late September to review progress on the master plan and water quality initiatives. Members committed to sharing relevant reports and continuing community outreach efforts.

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