

**AQUATIC WORKING GROUP (AWG)**  
Thursday, March 25, 2010  
Metro Central YMCA, 20 Grosvenor St.  
5:00 – 6:30 pm  
**MEETING SUMMARY**

*It was agreed at the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AWG that documentation would evolve from a detailed set of meeting minutes to a summary report of key presentation and discussion items. This summary was written by Nicole Swerhun, Meeting Facilitator. Questions, comments should be directed to either Nicole ([nicole@swerhun.com](mailto:nicole@swerhun.com) or 416-999-2665) or Karen Pitre ([kpitre@thelonsdalegroup.ca](mailto:kpitre@thelonsdalegroup.ca) or 416-691-7438).*

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1. **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & AGENDA REVIEW.** David Crombie welcomed participants to the meeting and congratulated them on their great success in keeping 32 pools open. Nicole Swerhun, Facilitator, reviewed the agenda and asked participants to introduce themselves.
2. **UPDATES TO AWG**
  - a. Construction schedule (Karen Pitre)
    - The construction schedule has not changed. Tenders are out on next 11 pools, and repairs will start this summer.
    - The Province has agreed to extend the deadline for completion of all capital repairs so they can be completed during the summer of 2011 (which will be less disruptive).
    - Repairs do not include equipment (e.g. diving blocks). There will be no funds left once construction is complete. Where there has been an opportunity to add to the scope of the repair work, we have.

**ACTION:** *Any AWG members with access to used equipment, please let Karen know and we'll let all AWG members know. Could be diving blocks, used lane markers, etc.*

- b. Permitting (Karen Pitre)
      - There are some permitting conflicts between schools and swim clubs. There's a need to have a working session that explores opportunities to improve the working relationship between swim clubs, other pools users, and schools. Need to figure out how to make the system more user friendly with a community service philosophy.
      - The AWG also promised the TDSB we would review the new permit fee, and also consider if/how to include a capital levy.

**ACTION:** *Everyone at the meeting expressed an interest in reconvening to discuss operational issues. Nicole and Karen committed to setting up a meeting for this. Participants said that all AWG members should be invited to participate.*

c. Operational Issues (Karen Pitre)

- Participant noted that closed pools are still available on the TDSB website for booking. Need to change this. Rather than only showing “booked” on the website, would be better if it could list “who booked it”. This needs permission of the permit holder.

**ACTION:** Please contact Karen if you have temperature issues with your pool. TDSB has agreed to not have same solution to pool temperatures in all pools.

d. Governance (David Crombie)

- Right now the pools are governed by us, the TLC and AWG. We need a long term model.
- The Governance Committee has been created and has met once. It has 2 reps from each of the TLC, AWG, and TDSB. The City hasn't yet replied to a letter sent by David Crombie to the Mayor inviting City participation. Janet Davis from the City came to the first meeting of the Governance Committee, her participation was as an observer only.
- There could be a connection between the governance of pools and community hubs. The City is looking at reconciling plans in the 6 former municipalities to remove existing obstacles to community hubs.
- The Committee is gathering material on governance models, and is open to ideas from all, including the AWG. The Committee will report in June 2010, and the report may include an interim solution. This is in part because the City lease of TDSB pools is up in January 2011. There will be no “silver bullet”, we're going to have to create this thing.

3. **FUTURE AWG MEETINGS & COMMUNICATIONS**

- Nicole reported that she and Karen have been discussing potential options for future AWG meetings, including bringing all pool users together once or twice each year to identify and address issues. Many participants at the meeting supported this idea. Also wide agreement that management issues are more important in the immediate term than governance issues.

**ACTION:** Participants agreed on the need for a follow-up meeting of the AWG to discuss opportunities to improve pool operations and management. *This meeting has been confirmed for Tuesday, June 8, 2010 from 12:00 – 1:30 pm at the Metro Central YMCA.* Ideas for discussion (as identified by participants on March 25<sup>th</sup>) include:

- System for keeping up-to-date on how many hours have been permitted, and how many hours need to be permitted.
- Need point of contact to address operational issues. For example, need to resolve who decides who gets pool permit – is it first come first served? Need to clarify the “chain of command” and where decisions are made. Also need to decide how decisions are made regarding whether the pool is open or not, when, and by whom.
- Also need to confirm roles and responsibilities of Principal, TDSB Permit Office, Pool captain, school council chair, parent council, trustee, MLAs, etc.
- Need to have strong framework so that the system remains in place even when individuals leave. Also need to discuss how sustainable it is to have local tasks completed on a completely voluntary basis (especially in areas with less active parents)
- There's a need for programming supports.