

Waipapa
Papanui-Innes Community Board
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Wednesday 18 May 2022
Time: 9.30am
Venue: Held via Audio/Visual Link

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Correspondence regarding Graham Condon Pool (relating to discussion of women's only sessions)

From: Juliana Venning
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2022 9:42:24 PM
To: Ali Jones
Subject: G Condon pool ongoing problems

Po Marie

Firstly I have commended helpful and alert, courteous staffers. Today appreciated senior front office staffer [REDACTED] active listening and his courtesy. I have always found him very courteous.

Covid is a disease which potentially (as we all should be aware) could have especially adverse effects for those of us who are both disabled and also immune compromised.

For this reason the Aquacise area (1-2 lanes) is sought as a safe lane space, for many of us.

Today, as I entered the pool, there was a sign saying 'Leisure lane (which doubles as slow lane) was not available till 2:45.

I was there, in the pool 11:40 - 12:15.

In the teaching pool there were a number of children and teens as well as two classes.

Lane swimming was going ahead.

However on entering an only 1 lane (today), Aquacise lane, I found there were 3 of us disabled, sharing with two able bodied swimmers, which was ok as we as adults could cope. Usually people swim clockwise.

However, a male, female and boy of about six were playing in deep end of the Aquacise single lane area.

Boy was being encouraged to leap in off steps. This should not have been allowed.

This is not a first instance of children intruding into vulnerable adults' space. [REDACTED] (often on in weekends) has encouraged similar behaviors or deliberately ignored requests from those of us trying to

- 1) keep ourselves safe,
- 2) exercise for pain relief and
- 3) get a quiet relaxing half hour.

An older woman, (who is afraid of deep water) asked me to intervene, as she was being splashed (quite deliberately) by the boy.

I initially asked the adults to remove boy to children's area and also asked female Lifeguard, after getting sworn at by male.

She finally asked them to go to the neighboring lane.

Not helpful.

In the past [REDACTED] (MANAGER) has said unless capable of lane swimming, this should not happen. No children playing in lane areas.

Male then further encouraged boy to jump in timing the jumps with when either of us older women were near, then a float board was thrown at me.

My companion having had enough and feeling afraid, left after 1/4 of an hour feeling stressed.

I limited my swim also, as life guards were not paying any attention to the deliberately disruptive behaviors.

Waiting in the corridor to access a disabled change room, I spoke with [REDACTED] who walked by about 12: 20 or so, I outlined the problems, explained my companion leaving as she was afraid and about my feeling stressed.

He took my words on board and later told me had spoken to relevant staff.

My point is this is NOT the first time older women have been harassed and made targets by males.

Other older lifeguards have previously stepped in. No help today from junior life guards. No supervisor present for the half hour I was in the pool.

Please pass to whoever can change this unsafe, unpleasant situation.

Thank you
Juliana
Ms J Venning