

Somerville Recreation Committee

Somerville, New Jersey

March 6, 2024

March 6, 2024 – BOE Office, 22 W. Cliff Street, Somerville, NJ 08876

Meeting came to order at 6:06pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mallory Burgan, Tori Cesario, Jason Kraska, Chris Peake, Ashley Rau, Tom Scherr, and (Recreation Director) Kathy Gerndt

ABSENT: Eric Allena, Helen Depopolo, AJ Smith, and (Council Liaison) Roger Vroom

Chairwoman Rau opened the meeting and stated, "*The meeting will please come to order. Adequate notice of this meeting as required by the Open Meeting Act has been provided in that on January 3, 2024, a copy of a notice specifying the time, location and date was (1) posted upon the bulletin board outside of Borough Hall, and (2) given to the Clerk Administrator (3) advertises in the Courier News. If any member of this body believes this meeting is being held in violation of the Open Meeting Act, please state your views at this time.*" Hearing none, we moved to the next item on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: J. Kraska made a motion to approve the February 7 minutes. T. Scherr seconded the motion which was approved 3-0-2 (Cesario and Peake abstained; Burgan late)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None

COMMUNICATION: None

RESOLUTIONS:

24-0304-077 Awarding a contract to Ben Shaffer Recreation, Inc. for a playground installation and safety surface at Walck Park.

24-0304-085 Adopting a Memorial Bench Program through the Recreation Department allowing approved applicants to honor and individual while enhancing the features of public parks.

HANDOUTS:

1. NJ Santos Rush Spring Soccer Clinic (Ages 4-7)
2. Adult Pickleball Clinic
3. Youth Tennis Clinic

REPORTS:

DIRECTOR- K. Gerndt

1. Soccer league registration was very strong. We'll have 13 teams in the Bridgewater League.
2. Adult softball is full – six teams in each league. Play will begin the week of April 8.
3. Registration is currently open for youth soccer clinics, youth tennis, and adult pickleball.
4. I did not attend the NJRPA Conference due to illness. Have requested a full refund.
5. Infield work is being done at Carol Pager and Lepp. Fields are expected to open for play on April 1st, weather permitting.
6. The Borough did go out to bid for 2024 Pool Operations. Bids will be opened at 3pm on March 21st. Same specifications as last year --- 12-6pm daily, Saturday, June 22- Sunday, August 18.
7. Thanks to Jason for organizing last weekend's town cleanup, and to those that participated in the rain!
8. There are still job openings at Borough Hall for an Accounts Payable Finance Clerk, and a Receptionist/Admin Assistant.

COUNCIL LIAISON – Absent. No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Programming/Events:** No reports
- 2) **Grants:** J. Kraska reported that the Borough will be applying for a CDBG Grant for improvements at the tennis and pickleball courts that will include court resurfacing, new lighting, and additional parking.
- 3) **Outreach:** No report

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Walck Playground – Colors were discussed. M. Burgan made a motion to select Sea Breeze (equipment) and light grey (surface) which are considered calm and sensory friendly options. A. Rau seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Committee discussed ideas for five-year Master Plan.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS:

1. Farmers Market will be opening in May for thirty weeks. The hours of operation will be from 9-1pm on Sundays. Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, J. Kraska made a motion to adjourn. M. Burgan seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0. The meeting adjourned 7:10pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3 at 6pm at the BOE Conference Room.

Kathy Gerndt
Acting as Secretary