

# **Somerville Recreation Committee**

Somerville, New Jersey

May 1, 2024

May 1, 2024 – BOE Conference Room, 222 Davenport Street, Somerville, NJ 08876

Meeting came to order at 6:06 pm.

## **ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Eric Allena, Mallory Burgan, Ashley Rau, Tom Scherr  
(Council Liaison) Roger Vroom

**ABSENT:** Tori Cesario, Helen Depopolo, Jason Kraska, Chris Peake, AJ Smith  
(Recreation Director) Kathy Gerndt

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 violations 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:** E. Allena a motion to approve the April 4 minutes. A. Rau seconded the motion which was approved 2-0-2 (Burgan and Scherr abstained)

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** None

**COMMUNICATION:** None

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

24-0415-137 Authorizing grant application to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for \$100,000 for athletic courts improvement project

**HANDOUTS:** None

## **REPORTS:**

**DIRECTOR-** K. Gerndt (Absent, submitted in advance)

1. Specialized goalie training was offered free of charge to league participants and coaches on Tuesday, April 16. The clinic was conducted by NJ Santos Rush. We had 25 players, and 5 coaches participated. Hope to continue offering additional training as needed/requested by coaches.
2. All spring programs have started (Youth soccer and tennis, Adult pickleball and softball).
3. Bids for the Lepp Basketball project will be opened on April 30.
4. Please spread the word about our Family Yoga Event on Sunday, May 19. This would make a great Mother's Day gift! Suitable for children ages 4 years old and up.
5. The Pickleball Tournament will be held in September, not June.
6. Work is expected to start on the inclusive playground at Walck Park around the second week in May.
7. Pool registration will open on May 10 for residents only. The pool will remain free for residents.
8. Spray Parks will be ready to open by Saturday, June 1

**COUNCIL LIAISON** – None

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1) **Programming/Events:**

- a) **National Night Out:** Discussion regarding other activities besides the dunk tank. M. Burgan suggested designing a brochure for distribution at the event
- 2) **Grants:** No report
- 3) **Outreach:**
  - a) **5-year plan:** A. Rau and M. Burgan will follow up with K. Gerndt regarding a survey for committee members. R. Vroom will follow up with the Mayor regarding goals and planning structure
  - b) **Community Engagement:** Discussion regarding the pros/cons of engaging residents via regular mail, online, or in a community forum

***OLD BUSINESS:***

None

***NEW BUSINESS:***

- 1. E. Allena reported that Somerville Wrestling is combining with Branchburg as a private club

***COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS:***

None

***ADJOURNMENT:***

There being no further business, E. Allena made a motion to adjourn. M. Burgan seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at 6pm at the BOE Conference Room.

Tom Scherr  
Acting as Secretary