

# **Somerville Recreation Committee**

Somerville, New Jersey

January 4, 2023

January 4 – Verve Restaurant 18 East Main St, Somerville  
Meeting came to order at 6:40pm.

## **ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Eric Allena, Tori Cesario, Jason Kraska, Karen Monetti, Chris Peake, Ashley Rau, Tom Scherr, AJ Smith, (Council Liaison) Fred Wied V, and (Recreation Director) Kathy Gerndt.

**ABSENT:** none

Chairman Chris Peake 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 5, 2022 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:**

A motion was made by J. Kraska and seconded by T. Scherr to approve the December 7 minutes. Motion was approved 5-0-3 (Allena, Cesario and Monetti abstained).

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** Former Committee Member, Bob Fenster was in attendance. No comments.

**COMMUNICATION:** None

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

Reorganization 2023

Appointment of Recreation Committee Members:

Jason Kraska            3 year 12/31/25

Christopher Peake    3 year 12/31/25

Vacancy                3 year 12/31/25

Appointment of Council Liaison: Fred Wied V

Resolution 22-1219-372 Approving Alyson Gust as an hourly employee at a rate of \$26.00/hour for the Basketball Gym Supervisor.

Resolution 22-1219-373 Approving Alex Cleveland, Christopher Banos, and Peter Umbenhaur as score keepers at a rate of \$17.00 per game for the Recreation Department.

Resolution 22-1219-381 Authorizing submission of a NJ Department of Community Affairs grant for approximately \$100,000 to install an ADA inclusive playground with a rubberized surface at Walck Park.

## **HANDOUTS:**

1. Proposed meeting schedule
2. Member directory
3. Committee structure and subcommittees

***REPORTS:***

**DIRECTOR-** no report

**COUNCIL LIAISON** – Councilman Wied stated that there's a vacancy and prospective members should submit an online application to Kevin Sluka.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Programming/Events** – no reports
- **Grants** – J. Kraska reported that the pool bids are due by 10am on Jan 12. He also discussed the plans for the application for an ADA inclusive playground at Walck Park.
- **Outreach**- No report.

***OLD BUSINESS:*** None

***NEW BUSINESS:***

1. Elect Chairman and Vice Chairman: J. Kraska nominated Tom Scherr for Chairman. C. Peake nominated Ashley Rau for Vice Chairman. AJ Smith seconded the nominations which were voted on separately and approved unanimously.
2. Approve the proposed meeting schedule: J. Kraska proposed amending the meeting schedule to reflect a 6pm starting time; C. Peake seconded the motion which was approved 8-0.
3. Review Committee structure and subcommittees: The Committee selected Jason Kraska to Chair the Grants subcommittee. C. Peake asked the Committee to give the handout some thought and consideration to finalize the remaining positions in February.

***COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS:*** K. Gerndt thanked Chris Peake for his leadership, and the Committee for their accomplishments. She also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

***ADJOURNMENT:***

There being no further business C. Peake made a motion to adjourn. J. Kraska seconded the motion, which was approved 8-0. Meeting adjourned 6:50pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1 at 6pm.

Kathy Gerndt  
Acting as Secretary