

Somerville Recreation Committee

Somerville, New Jersey

February 1, 2023

February 1, 2023 at the Somerville BOE Conference Room, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville, New Jersey.

Meeting came to order at 6:01pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Chairman Tom Scherr, Vice Chair Ashley Rau, Tori Cesario, Jason Kraska, Ashley Rau, Tom Scherr, AJ Smith, and (Recreation Director) Kathy Gerndt

ABSENT: Eric Allena, Karen Monetti, Chris Peake, and (Council Liaison) Fred Wied V

Chairman Tom Scherr 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 4, 2023, 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 January 4 minutes. Motion was seconded by AJ Smith and approved 5-0.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Marge Sullivan was in attendance on behalf of the Somerville Historic Advisory Committee. Mrs. Sullivan spoke about the committees desire to research the reasoning behind the names of various parks in town, and to publicize those findings. Members of the Rec Committee were receptive to the idea, and offered to collaborate on the project.

COMMUNICATION: None

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

Ordinance #2673-22-0516 Amending Chapter 5 Recreation Department specifically including appropriation and background checks.

HANDOUTS:

1. Member directory (updated)
2. Committee structure and subcommittees
3. 2023 Proposed Permit Fee Schedule
4. Spring Soccer Flyer

REPORTS:

DIRECTOR- K. Gerndt reported the following:

1. Basketball and wrestling are well under way with just the usual problems.
2. Soccer league registration opened today for Gr 1-8. Games begin April 22. Additional coaches are needed.
3. Adult softball leagues will begin play exclusively at Torpey in early April.
4. Working with residents on hosting our first adult pickleball tournament in May or June. This will be a Trust account event like the Turkey Trot – proceeds to benefit the pickleball courts for improvements such as windscreens, AED, benches, etc.
5. Plans for the playground at 40 Haynes Street are under review by the Borough.

6. A contract for the improvements at Michael Lepp Pool should be awarded at next week's Council meeting in the amount of about \$450k.
7. The Borough will be going out to bid for Pool Management/Lifeguard services for Lepp.
8. Walck Pool will not open this year.
9. The Borough is looking to outsource field maintenance which would include pre-season prep, and routine daily/weekly services. Weather permitting fields should be ready mid-March, not April 1.

COUNCIL LIAISON – Councilman Wied – absent/no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Programming/Events** – no reports
- **Grants** – J. Kraska reported that these grant applications have or will be filed–
 - DCA for an inclusive playground annex at Walck Park
 - AARP - \$12K
 - CDBG- \$100K for an inclusive playground add on at Carol Pager
 - Scotts/MLB for ballfield improvements.
- **Outreach**- No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Sub-committees – no further action was taken. Will finalize in April.

NEW BUSINESS: 2023 Permit Fee Schedule – J. Kraska made a motion to approve the proposed Fee Schedule that includes the pickleball/tennis courts, and no other changes. T. Scherr seconded the motion which was approved 5-0.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business J. Kraska made a motion to adjourn. T. Cesario seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Meeting adjourned 6:41pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5 at 6pm.

Kathy Gerndt
Acting as Secretary