

Somerville Recreation Committee

Somerville, New Jersey

June 7, 2023

June 7, 2023 at the Somerville BOE Conference Room, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville, New Jersey.

Meeting came to order at 6:04pm.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: Eric Allena, Jason Kraska, 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: AJ Smith made a motion to approve the February 1 and April 5 minutes. T. Cesario seconded the motion which was approved 3-0-2 (Rau and Burgan abstained)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None

COMMUNICATION: Sent a congratulatory note to former committee member Bob Fenster.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

Resolution 23-0417-141 Appointing Mallory Burgan to serve on the Recreation Committee.

Resolution 23-0605-182 Approving event permit for Just Another Day to use Carol Payer Park for adult kickball tournament and giveaways on July 29, 2023 (rain date August 5) from 11am to 5pm.

Resolution 23-0605-183 Approving event permit for Somerville Elks to use Carol Payer Park for Jack's Kids softball tournament on July 8, 2023 from 7am to 3pm.

Resolution 23-0605-197 Approving Jason Thompson to be hired as seasonal recreational program assistant at \$17 per hour from June 6-August 18, 2023.

HANDOUTS:

1. Pool registration form

REPORTS:

DIRECTOR- K. Gerndt reported the following:

1. Officially welcomed Mallory Burgan to the Committee.
2. Spring sports: Youth soccer is finishing up this Saturday, and amazingly enough adult softball should be done in two weeks – zero rain outs. Due to demand, I added another session of adult pickleball and youth tennis. Those programs run through June.
3. I attended a school function last week at VDV School to promote our activities to parents, meet and greet sort of evening.
4. The Family Fun Ride was successful – 172 participants.

5. The inaugural Battle of the Paddles Pickleball Tournament was also a smashing success. The men's bracket was sold out; ladies division would've been sold out had they registered on time! Many thanks to Barry Friedman for his assistance. Proceeds from the tournament went towards improvements at the courts – a windscreen and paddle rack were installed last week. Kicking around the idea of a fall mixed tournament.
6. Pool registrations are ongoing. Badges can be picked up at the pool during the first visit. 198 families have registered to date.
7. Spray parks and pool are expected to open on June 22nd. The contractor is finishing up, and inspections need to be completed afterwards.
8. There was vandalism at Carol Pager Sports Complex – specifically the Drew McLachlan Memorial Basketball Court --- a player's bench was stolen. A replacement bench has been ordered.
9. The AOD mural project was completed near the Greenway on N. Bridge and Green St intersection.
10. Jason Thompson started. Combination office worker and pool programmer.

COUNCIL LIAISON – Councilman Wied – absent/no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Programming/Events** – AJ Smith reminded committee about NNO on Aug 1 from 6-8pm.
- **Grants** – T. Scherr announced that the Borough received two awards for playground all-inclusive improvements, \$70k for Walck Park and \$150k for Carol Pager.
- **Outreach**- no report.

OLD BUSINESS: Finalized subcommittees and objectives. (See attached document)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS: AJ Smith thanked those committee members that assisted with the Family Fun Ride on Memorial Day.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, A. Rau made a motion to adjourn. AJ Smith seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Meeting adjourned 6:43pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 2 at 6pm.

Kathy Gerndt
Acting as Secretary