

Somerville Recreation Committee

Somerville, New Jersey

August 2, 2023

August 2, 2023 at the Somerville BOE Conference Room, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville, New Jersey.

Meeting came to order at 6:09pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Vice Chair Ashley Rau, Mallory Burgan, Tori Cesario, Jason Kraska, Karen Monetti, Chris Peake, and (Recreation Director) Kathy Gerndt

ABSENT: Eric Allena, Tom Scherr, AJ Smith, and (Council Liaison) Fred Wied V

Vice Chairman Ashley 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 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: M. Burgan made a motion to approve the June 7 minutes. T. Cesario seconded the motion which was approved 3-0-3 (Kraska, Monetti, and Peake abstained)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None

COMMUNICATION: None

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

Resolution 23-0717-236 Authorizing change order #1 to contract with American Pool New Jersey for pool management operations extending the pool season.

HANDOUTS:

1. Fall Soccer Registration (Grades 1-8)
2. Somerville Turkey Trot Registration Form

REPORTS:

DIRECTOR- K. Gerndt reported the following:

1. Michael Lepp Pool opened on July 1st which was two weeks later than anticipated due to contractor delays. The Borough was able to extend the season with American Pool- the pool will remain open through Sunday, August 27. The pool is open daily from 12-6pm.
2. There have been a few closures due to mechanical and water issues. The pool is scheduled to reopen tomorrow at noon.
3. 564 families have registered for the pool as of today (2059 individuals).
4. Attendance has averaged about 500 visits per week.
5. Soccer registration closed July 31 --- teams will be finalized early next week. Additional coaches are needed – particularly for first and second grade girls.
6. Registration for the Turkey Trot opened on July 18. Early bird registration (\$30) is valid through August. 65 participants have registered so far.
7. Men's Fall Ball softball started last week – unfortunately three dozen balls were stolen at Torpey.
8. Vandalism continues to be a problem – the water gun at the Lepp spray park was replaced at a cost of \$7k.

9. Another pickleball tournament is tentatively planned for September 30 – most likely a mixed event with two categories.
10. The YMCA has been conducting regular park clean-ups.
11. Tickets are still available for \$10 for next week's Patriots game on Thursday, Aug 10. Tickets must be purchased online, in advance. Seats are located behind home plate.
12. National Night Out was well attended and the Splash Tower was a success! Many thanks to the following Committee members for their assistance --- AJ, Tom, Ashley, Tori, Jason, and Mallory.

COUNCIL LIAISON – Councilman Wied – absent/no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Programming/Events –

- a) Spooktacular: T. Cesario will set up a meeting with the DSA to select a date and work out event details. Rec will order 250 pumpkins, candy and secure a DJ.
 - b) Turkey Trot: M. Burgan will revise the sponsorship letters to include data from last year's event for marketing purposes.
- 2) **Grants** – J. Kraska announced that we did not receive the MLB grant.
- 3) **Outreach**- no updates

OLD BUSINESS: Historical park information that was compiled by Marge Sullivan, et al. was briefly discussed. Needs to be edited before posting on website.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS: C. Peake complimented A. Rau on running the meeting; and J. Kraska and C. Peake welcomed M. Burgan to the committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, J. Kraska made a motion to adjourn. T. Cesario seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0. Meeting adjourned 7:01pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4 at 6pm.

Kathy Gerndt
Acting as Secretary