

Somerville Recreation Commission

Somerville New Jersey

August 5, 2015

The regularly scheduled session of the Somerville Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, August 5, 2015 at Borough Hall –Executive Conference Room – 25 West End Avenue, Somerville, New Jersey. The meeting came to order at 7:02 pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: (Chairman) Jay Scott, (Vice Chairman) Zina Van Ness, Tammy Stouchko, (Alternate) Jon Roethke, (Council Liaison) Jason Kraska, and (Recreation Director) Kathy Gerndt.

ABSENT: Ken Cornell

Chairman Jay Scott 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 1, 2015 a copy of a notice specifying the time, location and date was (1) posted upon the bulletin board outside of Borough Hall, (2) mailed to the Courier News, and (3) given to the Clerk Administrator. 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:

A motion was made by Z. Van Ness and seconded by J. Scott to approve the Minutes from the meeting on July 15, 2015. Motion was approved 3-0-1. (Roethke abstained)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None.

COMMUNICATION:

1. Thank you letter from Ava Grasyk, recipient of the John Long Scholarship award at Immaculata High School.
2. Acknowledgment letter from Lani Perruso, Assistant Principal at Somerville Middle School, for supporting their scholarship program.

DIRECTOR & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **DIRECTOR-** K. Gerndt reported the following:
 - a. The Somerville Rescue Squad water training has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 16th at Lepp Pool from 9-11:30am.
 - b. Summer programs are winding down. Received positive parental feedback on two new programs – USSI Sports Squirts, and the outdoor basketball training.
 - c. Finalizing fall/early winter programs
 - d. Bathrooms at Lepp continue to be problematic.
 - e. Looking into the feasibility of a community garden.
 - f. Painting of the pool buildings is almost complete. Doors will be painted once the pools close.
 - g. Suggested reconfiguring fences at both pools.
 - h. Carol Payer basketball court is in need of repairs
 - i. Continuing to identify groups that are utilizing fields without required permits.
2. **FACILITIES** –
3. **FINANCE** – K. Gerndt provided current balances. 2016 Budget request for capital improvements for pools needs to be prepared and presented at September 8th Council Meeting.
4. **PERSONNEL** – K. Gerndt stated that a term of employment letter has not been presented yet.
5. **PROGRAMS** - K. Gerndt reiterated the need to establish a traditional summer camp for 2016.

6. LIAISON -

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **CAROL PAGER PARK** – K. Gerndt reviewed the competitive bids that were received. A motion was then made by T. Stouchko to approve the purchase of the playground equipment under State Contract subject to a ceiling amount of \$140,000. Z. Van Ness seconded; motion passed 4-0.
2. **POOLS** – K. Gerndt provided attendance reports to date and stressed the need to better control membership in 2016 by possibly charging nominal membership fees and issuing badges. Cost of necessary repairs at Lepp and Walck need to be determined. Z. Van Ness will work with Rodney Hadley. Consider hiring an engineering firm. Discussions will continue as to the feasibility of future operations.
3. **BUDGET PREPARATION** – K. Gerndt will get the actual combined operating costs of the pools. Need figures from DPW and Bldgs. and Grounds.
4. **JOB DESCRIPTION**- K. Gerndt presented a job description for a full time Program Coordinator for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **JOHN LONG PARK** - An Eagle Scout candidate has expressed interest in revitalizing the water feature. The Commission discussed possible long range plans that may preclude this from being a suitable project. A informational kiosk at Lepp will be proposed instead.
2. **FACILITIES** - A three year (not five year) plan should be established to include, but not limited to, the following: Pools, field lights, tennis courts, basketball court resurfacing at Pager, fencing, skatepark, additional spray parks, Southside, and a community center. The life expectancy of existing playground structures should be determined and factored in for future replacements.

RESOLUTIONS: None

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: A motion was made by J. Roethke and seconded by T. Stouchko to approve vouchers (1-10) for payment. Approved 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, T. Stouchko made a motion to adjourn, and Z. Van Ness seconded the motion. It was approved 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, August 19, 2015, at **7:00 pm**; held at Borough Hall – Executive Conference Room – 25 West End Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876.

Kathy Gerndt
Acting as Secretary

KG