

# **Somerville Recreation Commission**

Somerville New Jersey

October 7, 2015

The regularly scheduled session of the Somerville Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at the BOE Office, Conference Room, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville, New Jersey. The meeting came to order at 7:02 pm.

## **ROLL CALL:**

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

**ABSENT:** Dan Kumar, (Alternate) Jon Roethke

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 K. Cornell and seconded by T. Stouchko to approve the Minutes from the meeting on September 9, 2015. Motion was approved 3-0-1 (Stouchko abstained). It was noted that the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting was cancelled.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** None.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

1. Exchanged emails and met with Megan Pilla, a graduate student in Landscape Architecture at Rutgers University and her advisor, Frank Gallagher. Megan's thesis, which is a design and planning project focusing on the integration of urban communities and ecological systems in public park spaces, will specifically focus on the needs of Somerville.
2. Somerville Basketball League – received two monetary donations totalling \$395 (Verve Restaurant; M/M Rappoport) in support of the League and Rec Commission.

## **DIRECTOR & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **DIRECTOR-** K. Gerndt reported the following:
  - a. Met with Sarah Nathans and YMCA Staff members to discuss a possible joint pickleball program. Summer camps were also discussed to avoid conflicts.
  - b. Met with Joyce Parr (Somerville Senior Center) and Ken Utter, Councilman, to discuss their programming needs
  - c. Girls on the Run obtained a fall permit. K. Gerndt reiterated the need to revise the current fee schedule for 2016 to allow for Non Profit discounts, etc. J. Scott volunteered to draft a new format.
  - d. Middle Earth has rescheduled their Kick Ball tournament for Saturday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> at Carol Pager.
  - e. Pop Warner needs to remove their equipment from the storage room at Pager. J. Kraska will send a follow up letter to Kevin Simpson, President.
  - f. The Somerville BOE (per Sal Gambino) will be responsible for paying the VDV port a john rental from April-June, and September-November. Hicks will bill them separately.
  - g. Meeting with Kyle Franey (Athletic Director) to discuss the need for tennis courts.

- h. Discount tickets for Radio City Christmas Spectacular are available for purchase through our website courtesy of Bridgewater Recreation.
  - i. Website training is scheduled for Thursday, Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. Suggestions (content and design) should be submitted ASAP.
  - j. The Inter-town Basketball League has opened registration to third graders. The League will have separate divisions for boys and girls in grades 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8.
  - k. Fall cleanup at the Mountain Avenue gardens will be completed by J.Scott and a resident volunteer by the name of Mrs. Bissell.
  - l. K. Gerndt and T. Cesario attended the Back to School Nights at Van Derveer recently to meet and greet parents and to distribute program flyers.
  - m. K. Gerndt addressed the Mayor and Council at the Monday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the present conditions of the pools and need for future repairs/improvements. A capital request will be submitted in November. A survey will be distributed to residents to obtain feedback.
2. **FACILITIES** - K. Gerndt reported that the fields will close on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Spray Park has been winterized.
  3. **FINANCE** – None.
  4. **PERSONNEL** – J. Scott reported that evaluations will be scheduled for office staff.
  5. **PROGRAMS** - K. Gerndt reported that afterschool programs began this week and that registration was flat. Partnership with the Bridgewater JCC has been well received.
  6. **LIAISON**- J. Kraska reported the Borough Council approved a new Rec Commissioner, Daniel Kumar, on Monday night but unfortunately he couldn't attend tonight's meeting on short notice due to work conflict. Mr. Kraska stressed the need to submit a capital request for pool work. He also mentioned that future funding may become available on a percentage basis under the PILOT program.

## ***OLD BUSINESS:***

1. **CAROL PAGER PARK** – K. Gerndt stated that the project has been delayed. More info should be available at the next meeting.
2. **POOLS** – K. Gerndt reported that the repair work has been completed at Walck. The areas will be painted and the pool will be covered as quickly as possible.

## ***NEW BUSINESS:***

1. **WHEEL PARK** - K. Gerndt said that registrations continue to decline and the feasibility of continuing to operate the park need to be discussed at the next meeting. The Wheel Park be closed for the season on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

***APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:*** A motion was made by K. Cornell and seconded by Z. Van Ness to approve vouchers (1-4) for payment. Approved 3-0-1 (Stouchko not present)

## ***EXECUTIVE SESSION:***

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:12 and 13, the public shall be excluded from the Executive Session of the Governing Body which is being held for the discussion of the following subject matter:

1. Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation;
2. Personnel matters;

(See specific list set forth in attached copy of N.J.S.A. 10: 4-12) This Executive Session shall continue for an indefinite period of time and upon termination of the Executive Session, the Governing Body may choose to

resume the public portion of the meeting. The discussion, which shall be conducted in closed session, shall be disclosed upon termination of litigation or contractual matter, upon resolution of the personnel matter with consent of said person or persons and as provided by N.J.S.A. 4-12 but in no case later than two (2) years from this date. These minutes shall be available as soon as the matter is resolved or not later than two years hence.

1.) A motion was made by Z. Van Ness and seconded by K. Cornell to move into Executive Session at 8:00pm to discuss personnel issues. Motion passed 3-0-1 (Stouchko not present).

2.) A motion was made by Z. Van Ness and seconded by K. Cornell to exit the Executive Session at 8:24pm. Motion passed 3-0-1 (Stouchko not present).

***RESOLUTIONS: RC15-1007-002*** (Attached)

Z. Van Ness made a motion that was seconded by K. Cornell to approve the position of Administrative Assistant as an hourly employee working twenty eight hours per week. The motion passed, 3-0-1 (Stouchko not present).

***ADJOURNMENT:***

There being no further business Z. Van Ness made a motion to adjourn, and K. Cornell seconded the motion. It was approved 3-0-1 (Stouchko not present). The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at 7:00 pm; at the Board of Education Office- Conference Room – 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville, NJ 08876.

Kathy Gerndt  
Acting as Secretary

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