

Somers Parks & Recreation Board

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James Papa
Chairman



MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2014

Chairman Papa opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The members present were: Jim Boniello, Stephen Krug, Jim Papa, Don Penzine, Michele Sanz, and Kevin Westerman.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Ralston, Councilman Richard Clinchy and interested residents were also present.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Sanz to accept the minutes of the September 4, 2014 meeting as submitted. Mr. Krug seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MR. RALSTON'S REPORT

There were no questions or comments about Mr. Ralston's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion with Resident Linda Simpson, Pool Proposal

Linda Simpson addressed the Board as a representative of a group of residents who created a committee to explore the possibility of building a town pool. A meeting was recently held at the Somers Community Center for this purpose as well, that Chairman Papa, Councilman Garrity and Board member Mr. Penzine attended. Chairman Papa reminded the Board that the last time a group came together to propose a town pool, approximately \$50,000 was spent out of Recreation Fees to prepare the concept for a referendum vote that resulted in a resounding no. If the Board is in agreement to recommend to the Town Board to move forward with this process, Chairman Papa would like to see a town-wide survey completed by professionals to be sure that there truly is enough interest in building a pool before any Recreation Fees are spent. A motion was made by Mr. Penzine and seconded by Mr. Krug to request that the Town Board move forward with exploring the possibility of building a town pool. All were in favor. Chairman Papa will craft a letter to the Town Board regarding this issue. If this is supported by the Town Board, the next step will be to create a Committee consisting of representatives of Mrs. Simpson's group, the Parks and Recreation Board, and perhaps the Town Board to work on researching having a professional survey done.

Avalon Town Green Proposal

As part of the planned Avalon at Somers development on Route 6 next to The Mews, a

1.4 acre parcel will be deeded to the Town as a park. Chairman Papa and Mr. Ralston will meet representatives of the Town Board, as well as the Planning Board and the Town Planner on November 5 to discuss this proposal further. An update will be given at the November Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

2015 Budget Review

Earlier today Mr. Ralston and Chairman Papa met with the Town Board for the departmental budget hearing. They were once again very supportive of the budget submitted.

Department Programs Evaluation

As a result of continued low or no enrollment, both the Teen Lounge and Tot Time Programs will be eliminated starting in 2015. The rooms used by both those programs can be repurposed and used by the Nutrition Program during the day, and as meeting rooms in the evening.

Sylvia Kalil Memorial

At their July 10, 2014 meeting, the Town Board approved a request to name the Administration Building in Reis Park in honor of former Parks and Recreation Superintendent Sylvia Kalil. The three possibilities are letters across the fascia board of the front of the building; a plaque on the corner of the front of the building; and/or a new sign over the front door. All agreed that letters on the fascia, as well as a plaque telling people about Ms. Kalil would be appropriate.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was covered under New Business item Discussion with Resident Linda Simpson, Pool Proposal.

MR. RALSTON'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ralston had no additional comments.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were no Board comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Parks & Recreation Board

cc: Parks & Recreation Board
Superintendent of Parks & Recreation
Town Board
Town Clerk