

Somers Parks & Recreation Board

PO Box 46, Somers, New York 10589

OFF: (914)-232-8441

FAX: (914)-232-8548

James Papa
Chairman



MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2014

Chairman Papa opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The members present were: Stephen Krug, Jim Papa, Don Penzine, Michele Sanz and John Zattola.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Ralston was also present.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Sanz to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2014 meeting as submitted. Mr. Krug seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MR. RALSTON'S REPORT

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

OLD BUSINESS

Windsor Farms/Hidden Meadow

Additional meetings have taken place with the developer of Hidden Meadow Ken Kearney. In addition to cutting a road from his development to the Town's abutting property, he has offered to provide water, electric, a comfort station, and a small playground. This also fulfills his recreation commitments for his development. Mr. Papa attended the last Planning Board meeting and was disappointed to learn that some of the Planning Board members were against this aspect of the plan. In addition, the Open Space Committee has some concerns regarding the wildlife habitat that could be affected. Mr. Papa is planning to meet with the Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, as well as the Planning Board and Open Space Committee Chairs to discuss this further.

Concession Stand RFP

Three Requests for Proposal were received for the Concession Stand. Councilmen Clinchy and Garrity, Mr. Papa and Mr. Ralston met with all three. A unanimous decision was made to recommend that O'Neill Concessions be granted the contract. Mr. Papa is quite confident that the O'Neill's will deliver all that they have promised, as they have quite a bit experience in this type of business. They are also willing to have concession trucks in Upper Reis, Van Tassell Park and St. Joseph's Field. Approving the proposal will take place at the March Town Board meeting.

Jr. League Field Renovation Request

Mr. Krug asked for an update on the SYSO Baseball Commissioner's desire to extend the fence on the Jr. League Field and add netting to the outfield in an effort to create 50' pitcher's mound and 70' bases. Chairman Papa wrote a letter to the SYSO Baseball Commissioner indicating that the Parks and Recreation Board will not support moving the fence or adding netting due to their safety concerns on the tot playground as well as the unappealing aesthetics of the netting. There has not been a response.

NEW BUSINESS

Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal

Scout JT Olert addressed the Board regarding his Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal, to erect a 5' by 6' building in Reis Park for new and used sports equipment to benefit a Somers based non-profit Let's Play Forward. There are currently two boxes that are made of cardboard at the Brewster Sports Center and Whitehall Corners Service Station. Although the Board liked to concept and appreciated the fact that it was for a local organization, there were concerns that donors might just leave items outside of the building and that it might not be kept up and maintained. Mr. Olert assured the Board that he has a plan in place to be sure that items are picked up in a timely fashion by other scouts, volunteers, volunteers of Let's Play Forward, etc. and that plans were in place for future scouts to maintain the building. A discussion ensued and a decision was made to erect the building in Van Tassell Park near the Police Station with signage indicating what it is for. It was also suggested that vinyl be considered for the exterior of the building to minimize maintenance. Recommendations were also given to Mr. Olert for ways in which he can get some donations towards materials, as well as promoting the cause. A motion was made by Mr. Papa and seconded by Mr. Penzine to approve the project as proposed, but to place it in Van Tassell Park, rather than Reis. All were in favor.

Two additional Eagle Scout Service Projects are in the works, the installation of pavers in the Dog Park by Brendan Pelter and a new entrance patio and trail markers in upper Reis on behalf of Robert Zattola.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public present.

MR. RALSTON'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ralston had no further comments.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were no Board comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held in March, on the 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room in the Town House.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Parks & Recreation Board

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