

Somers Parks & Recreation Board

PO Box 46, Somers, New York 10589

OFF: (914)-232-8441

FAX: (914)-232-8548

James Papa
Chairman



MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 2015

Chairman Papa opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The members present were: Jim Boniello, Gary Friedman, Jim Papa, Don Penzine, Michele Sanz, Kevin Westerman, and John Zattola.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Ralston, and Councilmen Clinchy and Garrity were also present.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Friedman to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2015 meeting as submitted. Mr. Sanz seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MR. RALSTON'S REPORT

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

NEW BUSINESS

Playground Equipment Purchase

A \$48,750 grant was received for a handicapped accessible/all-inclusive piece of playground apparatus to replace a large section of what exists at Reis Park. The Parks and Recreation Department maintenance staff would disassemble the piece that is there now. An out of pocket expense of \$20,000 to cover the delivery, installation and safety surfacing would have to be incurred. A motion was made by Mr. Friedman and seconded by Mr. Zattola to use Recreation Fees to pay that balance. All were in favor.

Reis Park Entrance Banner Discussion

Mr. Ralston received a request from one of the Town Board members to place a Relay for Life banner at the entrance to Reis Park for one week in May. The majority felt if permission was given, it would set precedence and there would be numerous requests thereafter. Discussing temporary signage at the entrance to Reis Park will be placed on the April meeting agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Field Use Permit Policy and Distribution

Residents Mario Corrado and Paul Elconin met with the Board to discuss field use for the EDSL Men's Over 30 Soccer League that has been in existence for about 20 years

and has been using any field space at Reis Park or Somers High School that has been available for about six home games in the fall and spring. As a result of the recent change made to the Field Use Permit Policy, they have been eliminated from using fields as they only have 50 to 60 % of their players who reside in Somers. At one time they did have 100% residency among their players. A discussion took place and it was decided that the policy will be updated to read that certain teams that were in existence prior to the new ruling will be grandfathered in, as referenced in the Somers Parks and Recreation Field Use Policy.

Merritt Park Development Recreation Fee

A meeting took place to further discuss the request being made by the owners of the Merritt Park Development to pay their Recreation Fees over a three year period. A discussion ensued resulting in a motion made by Mr. Papa to recommend to the Town Board to accept the fee structure for Recreation Fees as proposed exclusively for the Merritt Park Development. Mr. Penzine seconded the motion. Mr. Friedman voted against the motion and the request being made by the owners of the Merritt Park Development to pay their Recreation Fees over a three year period.

Town Pool Update

Councilmen Clinchy and Garrity met with representatives of the Town Pool Committee and all agreed that it made sense to put conducting a survey about a Town Pool on hold until plans for building a pool in Heritage Hills are confirmed. Although the developer is proposing to build a small pool, he was willing to discuss the possibility of building a larger pool that would accommodate the entire community with the owner.

Summer Camp Programs Update

Day Camp registration is on-going until May 29 or until all spaces are filled, whichever comes first. There are 121 registrants as compared to 118 at the same time last year. Trips and special events have been booked. If additional staff is needed due to an increase in registration, interviews of new applicants will take place at the end of the month. All 44 spaces in Tusker Trax have been filled, with waiting lists for all three sessions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was covered under Old Business.

MR. RALSTON'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ralston had no comments.

BOARD COMMENTS

None of the Board members had any comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 29 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