

Somerville Recreation Commission

Somerville New Jersey

January 13, 2010

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The Regular Session of the Somerville Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 in the Recreation Office, 25 West End Avenue, Somerville, New Jersey. The meeting came to order at 8:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairman Tammy Stouchko, Vice Chairman Mike Zolandz, Commissioners Jon Roethke, Jay Scott, Sean Decker, Ron Thornburg, Bob Axmann and Council Liaison Jane Kobuta.

Absent: Ken Cornell and Carlos Sanchez

Chairman Tammy Stouchko opened the meeting and stated that "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, 2009 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:

Vice Chairman Mike Zolandz offered a motion for approval of the December 9, 2009 minutes as written. This was seconded by Bob Axmann and approved 6 – 0 – 1.

COMMUNICATION:

1. Recreation to Mayor Gallagher, 11/13/09. Re: Commission attendance report and reconsideration of appointment of Robert Axmann and resignation of Charles Windus.
2. William Garbarini, President Somerville HS Hall of fame to Recreation, 12/1/09. Thank you for ad support in the Hall of Fame program. Mike Zolandz requested Director to seek legal opinion to commission continued support of contributions for ads as well as scholarship funds from Memorial Day programs.
3. Charles Windus commissioner 1990 – 2009 to Recreation. Thank you note for dinner, gift and 20 years of great recreation experiences.
4. Michael Russo, Director Division of Local Aid & Economic Development to county Freeholder Rick Fontana, 12/14/09. Phase 5 Grant # 350,000 for Raritan River / Peters Brook Greenway. This project phase will link Chambres Park to Rt. 206 at South Bridge Street. In addition we received official notice from Stephen Dilts Commissioner DOT. Of Phase 3 approval of Peters Brook Greenway extension of \$ 2,057,000.00 from

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Transportation Enhancement Funds and \$ 1,600,000.00 from NJDOT to complete project (Overpass 202-206 to Clarks Woods).

5. Scott Hade, Asst. Principle SHS to Recreation. Requested Chambres, Lepp and Pager Park field use for Somerville Middle School girls softball, Somerville Middle School boys baseball. Conditionally approved subject to insurance, fees and resolve of overlapping request from Immaculata. Director to coordinate.
6. Pierce Frauenheim, Director of Athletics IHS to Recreation, 1/2/10. Request for use of Chambres field for boys baseball and Carol Pager Park for girls softball. Conditionally approved subject to insurance, fees and resolve of conflict with dates and time with Somerville baseball and softball programs. Director to coordinate.
7. Bill Bluestone and Fred Ivens to Recreation. Proposal for Chess Program for Spring 2010. Tammy Stouchko offered motion for approval subject to proposal outline seconded by Sean Decker, approved 7-0.
8. Director circulated revised Skate park application requested by Commission in spanish. Translation was done by Luz Alvarez as support staff project.
9. Brian Smith, SBI Prsident to Recreation 1/12/10. Field Use request, shack use, tent rquest. Notice that Jon Roethke will serve as liaison this year. Approved subject to insurance, fees and Director will coordinate permits and resolve conflicts.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

1. David Dzwonczyk, 432 Catherine Street, Somerville was present to reintroduce Commission to Eagle Scout project. Background to project was outlined by Director. Mr. Quinn is to contact Planning office to have a necessary review on permits. New site location will be on mastogen Drive. Project must be completed by April 4, 2010. Mr. Dzwonczyk stated that funding and labor are in place for project. If Planning Board approval is necessary next meeting will be February 24th. Director will put on agenda if necessary. Recreation will obtain necessary lot and block information and dimensions of property to assist with best location. Consideration of notification of property owners adjacent to project was recommended with notice to attend next Commission meeting.

DIRECTOR & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Chairman Tammy Stouchko made a motion for the following commission assignments for 2010. Policy, John Scott and tammy Stouchko. Personnel, Mike Zolandz, Ken Cornell and Ron Thornburg. Finance, Ken Cornell and John Scott.

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- Programs, Sean Decker and Ron Thornburg. Facilities, Bob Axmann and Jon Roethke. Website, Sean Decker and Bob Axmann.
2. Mr. Quinn obtained quote for Recreation sweat shirts for coaches, staff and commission from Advertees for \$ 821.52. Two more quotes to follow.
 3. Director reviewed anticipated Spring programs include beekeeping, chess, video animation, engineering fun for K – 1 – 2.
 4. Tammy Stouchko discussed annual report meeting with Mayor and Council scheduled for February 16, 2010at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. Chairman will present as power point presentation within a 15 minute time slot. Commission was asked to be present.
 5. Mr. Quinn reminded commission of requirement to review 2009 fee schedule. This will be placed on the agenda for approval at our february meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Director requested Commission input as to a date for Ralph “Chick” Sternadori field dedication . Commission unanimously selected April 17th which corresponds with SBI opening day. Mr. Smith will coordinate a junior pony game at field to follow dedication. Commission anticipates one to two inning wiffle ball game between the commission and council to remain as part of their planned event.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chairman Tammy Stouchko spoke of preparation of commision / council meeting on 2/16/10. A review of past year improvements to parks and achievements will be presented. This will not be the opportunity for a financial report for budget discussion. Additional goals for 2010 will addressed at next meeting when budget will be better established. Communication will be improved in 2010 with new boro website and our integration into it. We will increase use of ville TV and email blasts to program users. Also, we will attempt to go to public more often and hold meetings at new and better accessible location in 2010. We hope to begin to accept credit cards for registration payment through new boro website this year. This must also be coordinated through Paul Allena and our website director Paul Taubmann. Also office hours may change on a seasonal basis because of program supervision for nights, weekends and Holiday’s and our loss of part time office support. Also all new and reappointed commission members must now comply with new state directives and complete Citizen Leadership form in order to serve. This year this requirement must be met by Bob Axmann and Sean Decker.

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2. Jane Kobuta requested director assistance in forming task force committee on bicycle safety. Mr. Quinn will investigate avenues for the education of Spanish speaking community who routinely use bicycles for transportation.
3. Jay Scott spoke on Spring flyer notice to residents about anticipated gardening projects including Ellsworth Van Fleet Gardens volunteers as well as Fairview Avenue gardening sites for flowers and vegetables. Borough site on Fairview is having soil test and program costs are being prepared which include extending new water source, topsoil, border timbers and fencing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Tammy Stouchko offered a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters. This was seconded by Sean Decker and approved 6-0.

Chairman Tammy Stouchko offered a motion to exit from Executive session. This was seconded by Jon Roethke and approved 6-0.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Vice Chairman Mike Zolanz offered a motion for approval of vouchers submitted for payment. This was seconded by Ron Thornburg and approved 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairman Tammy Stouchko offered a motion for adjournment. This was seconded by John Scott and approved 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 pm. Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 8:00 pm in the Recreation office located at 25 West End Avenue in Somerville.

Frank J. Quinn
Director / Secretary

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