

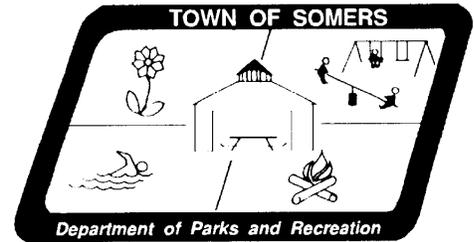
Somers Parks & Recreation Board

PO Box 46, Somers, New York 10589

OFF: (914)-232-8441

FAX: (914)-232-8548

Kevin Westerman
Chairman



MEETING MINUTES

June 27, 2018

Chairman Westerman opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

The members present were: Stephen Krug, Don Penzine, Michele Sanz, Kevin Westerman, and John Zattola.

Jim Boniello, Michael Papa, John Papalia, and Michele Werney were absent.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Steve Ralston, was also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Sanz to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2018 meeting. Mr. Zattola seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MR. RALSTON'S REPORT

Mr. Penzine was surprised to read that the turkey hunting program had almost no participants this year. Mr. Ralston said that is not unusual.

In addition, he asked how the first concert in Bailey Park went, unfortunately it had to be cancelled due to the rain.

NEW BUSINESS

Parks Rules Discussion – The Parks and Recreation Department has received some complaints about people smoking in the Park. Currently, while the Code of the Town of Somers limits smoking in Town buildings, there are no official rules prohibiting smoking in the Town parks, except in the Dog Park. Mr. Ralston provided the Board members with some information that he collected for their consideration. Whether and to what extent there should be a smoking ban in the Town parks, and how such a ban would best be implemented, will be placed on the agenda of the July meeting for further discussion.

2019 Budget – Mr. Ralston will begin working on the 2019 budget shortly. If any of the Board members would like any budget items to be added or changed, they should contact him. An increase in Day Camp staff will have to be addressed, as it is

becoming more and more difficult to secure counselors because the candidates have other work options that pay much higher hourly rates.

OLD BUSINESS

2018 Summer Camps Update – Day Camp began on June 25, with 443 registered campers, as compared to last year's 359. There are more new campers in the upper grades this year. Many new activities and trips have been planned. Tusker Trax also began on Monday. The staff looks forward to a successful summer.

Parks Master Plan Update – Currently, the focus is on Bailey and Van Tassell Parks with regard to the Parks Master Plan. Just last week, a Somers company Landscape Concepts re-landscaped the front of the Somers Town House. Since Bailey Park is across the street, Mr. Ralston feels as though it makes sense to contact them with regard to the landscaping needs at that Park.

Mr. Papalia and Mr. Ralston met at Van Tassell Park. There is an area behind the flagpole going toward the soccer field that would be ideal for a picnic area. There is plenty of shade and a stone wall. No trees would have to be removed, only brush. The stone wall would have to be cleared. Once the work is completed, the area would be easy to maintain. This would be an ideal Eagle Scout Project.

Independence Day Celebration Update – All seems to be in order for the rebranded Independence Day Celebration that will be held on June 30th at the Sebastian Capital property, the former Pepsi site. As of today, 450 of 500 parking spots have been bought, as well as all 50 of the VIP parking spaces.

MR. RALSTON'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ralston didn't have any additional comments.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were no Board comments this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. and the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 25th at 6:30 p.m. in 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