

# **Somers Parks & Recreation Board**

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**Kevin Westerman**  
Chairman



## **MEETING MINUTES**

**October 26, 2022**

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

The members present were: Jim Boniello; Stephen Krug; Chris McCormack; Don Penzine; Janelle Robbins; Michele Sanz; Kevin Westerman; and John Zattola.

John Papalia was absent.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Ralston was also present.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public Comment was covered under New Business.

### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sanz to approve the minutes of September 28, 2022 meeting as submitted. Mr. Penzine seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **MR. RALSTON'S REPORT**

The trees in Bailey Park designated to be eliminated for safety reasons, as specified in the Forestry Plan and agreed by the Tree Board, have been removed with very little impact. One would not even know that they were ever there if they didn't know there was a plan to remove them.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Proposed Eagle Scout Project**

Eagle Scout Frank Illuzzi and his father joined the Board to review and discuss his proposed Eagle Scout Project. Frank would like to remove or refurbish the existing flag box near the entrance of the library as it is old, rusted and difficult to use as a result. There is definitely a need for the box, as last year about 1,000 flags were collected by his Troop. Frank's Troop collects the flags on a regular basis and burns them as part of a ceremony to retire the flags. All agreed this was an excellent project and unanimously agreed to approve it.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **2023 Budget Hearings**

Mr. Ralston and Mr. Westerman attended the 2023 budget hearings with the Town Board last week. Although they were pleased with the budget proposal and only a few small changes were made, they did reduce the salary proposed for Mr. Ralston. The Board members were very disappointed to hear about that decision. Not only does Mr. Ralston deserve an increase as he always goes above and beyond, but this is the first time he has ever asked that his salary be increased. Perhaps the justifications of the increase were taken into consideration and will be reflective in the next draft of the budget submitted to the Town Board.

### **Bailey Park Project Update**

Mr. Boniello presented a final drawing of the upgrades being proposed for Bailey Park. Mr. Ralston tweaked it a bit as well to include what is existing and will not be eliminated, i.e., the watering trough. The only decisions left to be made are the size and shape of the patio at the bottom of the steps to the gazebo and materials to be used. All agreed that as much information as possible needs to be included in the final presentation submitted to the Town Board. Mrs. Robbins will assist with the verbiage of it.

### **Angle Fly Land Swap Update**

Thanks to Supervisor Scorrano, the process for the Angle Fly land swap is finally being restarted as some of the original paperwork was misplaced. Hopefully the momentum will continue and the land swap completed as it has been at least 10 years in the making.

### **MR. RALSTON'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Ralston once again thanked the Board for their continued support.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

There were no additional Board comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. and the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Parks and Recreation Board

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

