

S.P. Recreation Commission Minutes 1/18/13

Attendance: Brian Hartley, Al Becker, Jim Waniak, Eric Meyers, Russ Babb, Chris Hutton, Jeanette Cellucci, Sydney Perkins, Councilman Dennis Tapp, Councilman Howard Dill, Councilman Carl DiAdamo.

Meeting opened for public comment at 7:05pm. Motion (Waniak), 2nd (Becker)

Swearing in of Brian Hartley, Chris Hutton and Jeanette Cellucci, for new 3 year terms on Recreation Commission by Mayor Jack Glasser.

Sara Henry (Adult Women's Street Hockey League) - Came to provide proof of non-profit status for the league and get approval to use the hockey courts on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in March and April. Passed, Motion (Becker), 2nd (Babb).

Alex Marino (Mainland Youth Lacrosse Club) – Came to discuss how the club's different levels of players were going to practice at different facilities in all three communities this year. Asked for approval to use the field from 5:30-9:30 Monday through Thursday and 9-1 on Saturdays from April 15 to May 31. Passed, Motion (Becker), 2nd (Hutton).

Motion to close to Public Session and move to Old Business (Hartley), 2nd (Waniak). Passed

Old Business: Discussion on the relocation of the tennis courts. Hutton voiced opinion that Kennedy Park would be a poor location because of tree removal.

Motion to open to Public Session (Cellucci), 2nd (Becker), Passed.

Charleen Welsh- Lives across the street from the Wayne Drive site and doesn't want to look at Tennis Courts and said it would create greater traffic problems.

Janeen Brownlee- Has lived in the area for 28 years and believes it will create security issues in their otherwise quiet neighborhood.

George Flammer- 58 Defeo Lane, has lived in the area for 28 years and feels it would create more safety issues, traffic issues, noise issues and there are no bathroom facilities.

Sharon Parks Filling- 7 Wilson Ave., worried about light pollution, noise pollution and feels the tax money would be better spent elsewhere.

Joanne Santoro-13 Wilson Ave. loves the town the way it is and would hate to see her neighborhood park changed.

Howard Dill- 13 Wayne Drive, against an unrestricted play area, irrigation system currently in place would be wasted, has security concerns and parking concerns. He is a police officer and knows of the security issues in this area already.

Susan Igo- 65 Defeo Lane, was worried that Tennis Courts would attract problems as well as worried about Schools, teams and leagues wanting to use the courts as well as bus traffic if schools are using it.

Trishia Higgins- 23 Whitman Drive, has safety concerns.

Motion to close to Public Session and open Private Session, Old Business (Becker), 2nd (Babb). Passed.

Brian Hartley- commented that the old tennis courts were torn out because they were condemned by the city engineer because the ground underneath was not stable enough to sustain the tennis courts. It was promised that the courts would be relocated. He felt Wayne Drive was a good location and that parking would be reduced since only up to 8 people would be able to play at once as compared to the amount who would park there for Powderpuff Football practice. Space in the city designated for recreation is very limited and Wayne Drive is a good location to replace a recreation facility that the city has lost.

Motion to recommend to City Council to relocate the city's tennis courts at the Wayne Drive property (Meyers), 2nd (Hutton). Passed 6-1

Motion to close Private Session and re-open Public Session of the meeting, (Babb), 2nd (Hartley). Passed.

Eric Meyers- (Somers Point, Northfield, Linwood Softball Merger) - Eric discussed the decline in softball sign ups in all three communities and they are working on a merger between the three towns to try and enhance the softball program for the Mainland area. He said that the other communities agreed to abide by Somers Point's background checks, and he is looking into the insurance needed to do so also. Games and practices would be spread out between the 3 communities and he will be back next month with more information for the Committee.

Wil Fausey- (Eagle Scout Shot Put Project at Track)- Wil discussed where and how he is attempting to get funding for his Eagle Scout Project of installing a shot put sector at the track. He has expenses totaling about \$425 which he is requesting the Recreation Committee to split with the School District. He has submitted letters of funding approval from S.P.B.O.E. as well as from Somers Point Public works for location and a letter about why it is needed by the track coach from Somers Point Schools. Motion to approve 50% funding up to \$300 for Wil's project with the provision that a meeting discussing location and spending procedures be set up between Public Works (Guy Martin) and the track coach (Jeanette Cellucci), (Becker), 2nd (Waniak). Passed

Motion to close Public Session and move to Private Session, (Waniak), 2nd (Hutton). Passed

Permits and Bench requests:

N.J. Independent Baseball, Jersey Shore League- Adult league requests use of Senior league field for 5/24/13 to 5/27/13 for scholarship baseball tournament. Motion to approve pending proper insurance and fulfilling all Recreation Commission rules, (Cellucci), 2nd (Waniak). Passed

The Alcove Center for Grieving Children and Families- Requesting use of Kennedy Park on 7/14/13 for their annual Sundaes on Sunday ice cream festival with a rain date of 7/21/13. Motion to approve use of the park with the understanding that the park cannot be closed to the public during this event and pending proper insurance documentation for use, (Hutton), 2nd (Meyers). Passed

Jeneane Csaszar- Requesting a bench in memory of her father Frank Callio, in the Meyran Ave area of the bike path. May need to pick a different location, current location already has many benches. Tabled

Russ Babb- Linwood hockey would like to partner with Somers Point Hockey to co-host Linwood's Hockey Tournament. Insurance will be in place and the dates would be from 2/7/13 to 2/13/13. Motion to approve use of hockey courts, (Meyers), 2nd (Cellucci). Passed

Mainland High School Baseball would like to play a JV and Varsity game at different towns including Somers Point in effort to get more fan participation. This would bring business to area businesses as well as profits Somers Point Baseball from snack bar income. More to come.

Old Business:

Hockey Courts – Russ Babb has a scope of work prepared to present to City Council for approval in reference to the Reconstruction of the hockey court.

Discussion on Volunteer of the Year: Helen Lenzsch was nominated for Volunteer of the Year for several reasons by several people. Motion to approve Helen Lenzsch, (Becker), 2nd (Babb). Passed

New Business:

Discussion about city's jurisdiction over new Rt. 52 Boat ramp. Who will be responsible for upkeep and manning of the ramp? Concerns about who will use Kennedy park if we lose jurisdiction on new ramp and it is free of charge. Being looked into by Council currently. Tabled

Baseball Field Lighting: Hartley reported that Musco should be able to use current poles at fields, replacing only arms, fixtures and switch boxes. He is waiting on pricing.

New subcommittee was formed by Council overseeing the Recreation Committee. It includes Dennis Tapp, Howard Dill and Ralph Triboletti.

Facility Reports:

Fehrle Field (Hartley) – The irrigation system is in place and has been tested. Still waiting for the electric company to hook up the power on the pole.

Wayne Drive (Becker) – Tennis Court recommendation.

Senior Citizens Building (Waniak) – Decorated and no problems. How Dill reported that council is looking into converting the building to a gas operated facility with a natural gas powered generator. This would be a line item in public safety's budget since the building is designated for safe haven in case it is needed as such.

Bike Path (Hutton) – The survey between Ocean Avenue & Ocean Heights has been completed. Major encroachment is evident in several areas. Needs to be discussed with solicitor how to handle. At least 10 lights needed to be replaced and there are a few bad light standards that need to be upgraded.

Kennedy Park (Meyers) – The bluff area has been fenced off to keep people away. The horseshoe pits and bocce ball courts still need to be removed. A work order to remove them has been submitted to public works by Sydney for their removal.

Kern Field (Babb) – Security lighting at the hockey courts need to be improved. Damage was reported to the new hockey nets on the west court due to darkness.

William Morrow Beach – All cleaned up from the storm. Awaiting FEMA money to begin the restoration of the pier.

Eva Anderson Youth Center – New Shuffleboard Table

Motion to close meeting (Waniak), 2nd (Hartley). Passed