

## Somers Point Recreation Commission minutes from January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

New member Ron Meischker and returning member Russell Babb were sworn in by Mayor Glasser.

**Members Present:** Jeanette Cellucci, Eric Meyers, Jay Turcotte, Marcus Perry, Barbie Carney, Meischker and Babb.

**Also Present:** Sydney Somers, CER .

The Commission unanimously elected the following officers:

- **Chairperson:** Cellucci
- **Vice-Chair:** Meyers
- **Secretary:** Meischker

**The meeting minutes for the December 4<sup>th</sup> were approved.**

**The meeting was opened to the Public.**

**City Administrator Wes Swain** addressed the Commission and clarified purchasing methods and procedures. He asked that all purchasing request be submitted to Ms. Somers in the CER office.

**Chuck Kaczmariski from Mainland Lacrosse** addressed the regarding the organization's application to use the fields. Members of the commission queried Kaczmariski about the number of children involved in the program and the percentage of Somers Point residents involved. The board reminded Kaczmariski that all coaches must complete the required background checks prior to coaching on Somers Point recreation property. Application was unanimously approved.

**Sherri Paris of the Marine Science Camp** came forward to discuss her organization's application for use of Morrow Beach for 8/17 through 8/21. The commission unanimously approved the application and encouraged Ms. Paris to add a second week of camp 8/24 through 8/28. The commission also encouraged and was supportive of the organization adding a teen camp for a date to be determined.

**Jeff Thomas** addressed the application for the Art Elwell Polar Bear Plunge at Morrow Beach for Saturday 3/7. This application was unanimously approved.

**A representative of the Somers Point Devils 35 and over baseball team** addressed the organization's application to use Fehrle Field. The application was unanimously approved.

**Mike Stewart** addressed the board on behalf of the men's adult street hockey league trying to get an idea on dates and scheduling. No application was filed and it was recommended to that Mr. Stewart maintain contact with Mr. Babb and appear at the Ccommission's February meeting.

**Representative Mary Kearns-Divel Somers Point Sharks** addressed the Commission and provided a positive update on the organization's financial status. It was reported that the organization had approximately \$20,000 in funds, which was up from \$8,000 at this time a year ago.

**Barbie Carney of JSPPL** addressed the Commission about the upcoming JSPPL season. This season will feature 10 teams. Field use was discussed and Carney expressed a strong willingness to be flexible with

field use and times. Carney asked about the use of the concession stand to store and sell JSPPL Materials. Discussions revolved around security couldn't be promised because it is unknown how many keys for the stand are in the possession of current and former sports volunteers. Usage of the stand was unanimously approved with Carney recusing herself.

**Mainland Regional High School's** request to utilize Faerle Field was approved unanimously.

**Councilman Tom Smith** addressed the Commission and detailed what the expectations of City Council's budget subcommittee are when receiving and reviewing budget requests.

**The meeting was closed to the public.**

Ms. Carney provided delicious peanut butter squares to the members of the Commission and public during a brief intermission.

### **Old Business**

Ms. Somers indicated that only one Volunteer of the Year application had been submitted to date. The Commission commended Ms. Carney's efforts to help promote the award through Social Media.

There was discussion about a 'Volunteer Emeritus Award' being created. A sub-committee of Carney, Turcotte and Somers was formed to examine the matter further.

Senior Center repair updates were discussed. Meischker was assigned the responsibility of the Senior Center and promised a report at the February meeting.

Babb provided a construction update for the new hockey courts.

The Fehrle Field paving project was discussed, as well as the city engineer-recommended retaining wall at the end of Connecticut Avenue. After discussion, this matter was tabled so more information could be gathered about the cost of the retaining wall.

### **Facility Reports**

2015 facility assignments were announced. They are as follows:

- |                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • <b>Fehrle Field</b>  | <b>Meyers</b>                       |
| • <b>Wayne Drive</b>   | <b>Perry</b>                        |
| • <b>Senior Center</b> | <b>Meischker</b>                    |
| • <b>Kennedy Park</b>  | <b>Meischker &amp; Turcotte</b>     |
| • <b>Kern Field</b>    | <b>Babb</b>                         |
| • <b>Morrow Beach</b>  | <b>Carney</b>                       |
| • <b>Youth Center</b>  | <b>Cellucci</b>                     |
| • <b>Bike Path</b>     | <b>Turcotte, Perry &amp; Carney</b> |

During the discussion about the facilities, the Commission agreed to examine replacing all traditionally keyed locks with keyless entry locks. Councilman Smith noted that he believed that money to convert the restrooms at Kennedy Park had already been approved and budgeted. He said he would confirm with Mr. Swain that this was the case and report back.

The meeting was adjourned.