

Somers Parks & Recreation Board

PO Box 46 Somers, New York 10589

OFF: (914)-232-8441

FAX: (914)-232-8548

Kevin Westerman
Chairman



MEETING MINUTES **January 28, 2026**

Chairman Westerman opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

The members present were: Stephen Krug; Chris McCormack; John Papalia; Janelle Robbins; Kevin Westerman; and John Zattola.

Jim Boniello and Don Penzine were absent.

New Town Councilwoman Board liaison, Gina Arena, Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Ralston, Woodard & Curran consulting engineer Steve Robbins and Supervisor Rob Scorrano were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Robbins to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2025, meeting as submitted. Mr. McCormack seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MR. RALSTON'S REPORT

Mr. Ralson announced that a full-time groundkeeper position is available. A question came up as to why the Independence Day Celebration is happening on July 1st and not closer to the 4th. Since the 4th is on a Saturday this year, and the 3rd is the legal holiday, it was considered that people might leave Town for an extended Holiday weekend, resulting in a lower turnout for the Celebration.

NEW BUSINESS:

Angle Fly Preserve Greenway Grant

The Town is in receipt of a Greenway Grant that was submitted by Woodard & Curran consulting engineer Steve Robbins to create a master plan for the Town's exclusive 15-acre portion of Angle Fly Preserve, including the Reynolds House. Mr. Robbins gave an overview of the process and Supervisor Scorrano confirmed that any and all ideas will be accepted first by the Parks and Recreation Board. Thereafter, community groups that might have a vested interest in the use of the property would be consulted for their input. The ultimate goal is to

bring amenities to Somers that don't currently exist. The plan can be one that is phased in and it was noted that if the Town may seek additional grant money to institute the master plan when completed. Ultimately this 15-acre parcel should be the gateway to the rest of the acreage on the property. Mr Ralston will send all members information including a map that he has on Angle Fly Preserve. There will be an opportunity in the future, if appropriate, to amend the rules as they apply to the 15 acres. It should take about 4 months to complete this process. All Parks and Recreation Board members were asked to email any and all ideas that they have to Mr. Ralston. All were pleased with this opportunity.

2026 Programs and Events

The update for upcoming programs and events includes the following: there will be a Valentine's and St. Patrick's Day workshop; registration for instructional programs ended on January 22nd and was well received, with some already having a waiting list; arrangements are being made for a volleyball program; all Day Camp staff members that were in good standing last year were sent a letter about returning this summer, the response has been good; Day Camp registration begins on April 9th; the Somers Central School District confirmed use of the Somers Middle School as a rainy day site for Camp; and entry forms are being accepted for the Men's Softball Program, with a new website created by Assistant Superintendent, Andrew Johnson, for streamlining this offering. As discussed above, the Somers Independence Day Celebration will be held on July 1st in Reis Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

Reis Park Improvements and Expansion Update

A request was made to LANDTEK to plan an improvement and expansion project for Reis Park in phases, with a cost estimate per phase. The proposal was reviewed and discussed and includes among other things pickle ball courts, new LED lighting on the pickle ball and tennis courts, a new comfort station, new surface for the basketball courts, upgrading of existing field lighting to LED, a splash pad and conversion of the fields in upper Reis to multi-sport turf fields.

MR. RALSTON'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ralston had no additional comments.

BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Westerman asked if anyone has shown any interest in the Board member vacancy left open by the departure of Michele Sanz. Mr. Ralston is not aware that anyone has reached out to the Supervisor's office about that position.

The Board further discussed the update for the Reis Park improvements and expansion specifically the splash pad. All agree they would like to see it added to phase 1 of the project, as it is a much-needed amenity since there is not a Town pool and has been in the asking for quite some time now. It will also be a beneficial activity for Day Camp. A memo will be sent to the Supervisor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The Board will meet next on February 25th 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