

# **Somers Parks & Recreation Board**

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**Kevin Westerman**  
Chairman



## **MEETING MINUTES**

**March 25, 2026**

Chairman Westerman opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

The members present were: Jim Boniello, Stephen Krug; Chris McCormack; Don Penzine; and Kevin Westerman.

John Papalia; Janelle Robbins; and John Zattola were absent.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Ralston, Councilwoman Gina Arena and Councilman Rich Clinchy were also present.

Mr. Krug attended via a phone call.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. McCormack to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2026, meeting as submitted. Mr. Penzine seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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

A new groundskeeper was hired and started work on Monday. Applications are being accepted for seasonal groundskeepers. One of the full time Parks staff members will be out long term due to an illness so additional help will be needed.

Preparations are underway to open the fields for baseball and soccer early to mid-April.

Opening day for Men's Softball is scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup> and there are twenty-five teams this year, two more than last.

Plans are in place for the Independence Day Celebration to be held on July 1<sup>st</sup> in Reis Park. Day Camp registration begins on April 9<sup>th</sup> and fortunately, due to the high number of staff returning staff and new staff applications, registration will not have to be limited. The salary for

counselors is a little bit below minimum wage. All key administrative staff positions are accounted for.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no New Business this evening.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Reis Park Improvements and Expansion Update**

LandTek, a civil contractor and consultant specializing in the design and construction of athletic fields across the East Coast, provided a plan for the improvement project for Reis Park in phases, with a cost estimate per phase. It was shared with all the Parks and Recreation Board members for background and information. The Parks and Recreation Board was not requested to vote or approve the plan. Still, Supervisor Scorrano made clear that he welcomed input from the Parks and Recreation Board. A review and discussion of the plan ensued. Other than the access road, the LandTek plan does not include development of land from the 11 acre "land swap." New turf fields are being proposed for Upper Reis and a site visit, including some youth athletes who will use the new fields at Reis Park, will take place at the minor league baseball field in Rockland County that has it. A second turf field option, that does not include rubber pellets, will be provided to the Town shortly and will be compared to the current option before a final selection is made. There are Town staff members who are vetting aspects of the proposal with regard to tasks that can be done in-house. This also includes identifying some of the materials and equipment that will be cheaper when purchased directly by the Town. LandTek will handle all aspects of the project, which provides several operational and logistical benefits, but will limit some opportunities to send out for bid individual parts of the improvement project. At their April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Town Board will meet with LandTek to review and discuss their most up to date plan and present the proposal to the public. It is understood that the input from the public will be taken under advisement. A final decision on the project will be made some time thereafter and the project will be voted on by the Town Board. If the Parks and Recreation Board has any comments, concerns, etc., they can put them in writing to the Town Board in time for that meeting. A time-line has yet to be determined, but all references received from LandTek will be contacted. Funding for the project is expected to be obtained from multiple sources, including Town Recreation Fees which have been set aside for Capital Projects, such as this.

#### **Angle Fly Preserve Greenway Grant Update**

In January, it was announced that the Town was 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. All Parks and Recreation Board members were reminded to email any and all ideas that they had to Mr. Ralston. Supervisor Scorrano has stressed that the Parks and Recreation Board will be heavily involved in the planning and development of that property.

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

Mr. Ralston had no additional comments.

### **BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

There were no additional Board member comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The Board will meet next on April 22<sup>nd</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