

**TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA  
RECREATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

A meeting of the Recreation Committee of Council was held at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at Town Hall, 2050-B Middle Street all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Committee members, Council members Mary Jane Watson (Chair), Hartley Cooper and Susan Middaugh. Staff included Administrator Benke and Fire Chief Stith.

**I. Call to Order.** Chair Watson called the meeting to order, stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to state law, noted all members were present and welcomed Diana Browder to the meeting.

**II. Tennis Court Replacement**

Committee discussed options for replacement of two public courts at 1732 Poe Avenue/Middle Street as previously discussed at the October 2, 2013 Committee meeting. Park Foundation proposal:

1. Tennis court (alone)
2. Multi-purpose court (tennis court also striped for half-court basketball)

Staff will gather prices for courts. Chair Watson commented she has been receiving unofficial reports that younger children (age 8-10) are unable to get secure court time at the Stith Park, due to intense demand for court time. Having a tennis court at Stith Park and 1732 Poe/Middle would allow flexibility for growing court demand.

Chair Watson noted this funding was incorporated in the FY14 budget but will present the following to Council in February for general consensus, prior to action:

Request for Proposal (RFP) for engineering and construction of two (2) courts, without lighting, one being a tennis court and the second being a multi-purpose court (tennis court with backboard also striped for half-court basketball use) at 1732 Poe Avenue/Middle Street.

General discussion regarding courts: retain in current footprints or expand the area, by moving it forward, to provide for additional parking in area, one Hackberry tree that would have to be removed, existing storm water and drainage considerations and how courts are situated on the vacant Middle Street lots.

Chair Watson will seek general discussion from Council at its February meeting on the aforementioned considerations.

### **III. “Topping Off” Ceremony - Saturday, February 22, 2014**

Event will begin at 10AM on Saturday, February 22, 2014, to be held at Battery Gadsden. Theme: Coastal environment and marine biology, the magnet status of Sullivan’s Island Elementary School. Current event plans include:

- School Chorus providing entertainment
- Inside Battery Gadsden: projector with rolling Power Point, movie entitled “Into the Deep;”
- Poetry writing on large boards that will be moved into the school;
- Tile paintings - to be grouted and placed within the school;
- Councilman O’Neil will donate a flag for the top of the school.

There is no specific time for the event; estimated 1 ½ hour event. Advertisement: flyer to circulate in business district, Island Eye News, Town E-Newsletter, website and other media outlets.

Committee brainstormed vendors and groups to work with tile painting event (estimated 100), to avoid parents and teachers manning booths. Chair Watson will coordinate remaining planned events.

Committee discussed timeline to install electricity at Battery Gadsden, anticipated for later this week. Fire Chief Stith will assist with providing three (3) tables within Battery Gadsden for this event.

### **IV. Youth Valentine Card Decorating Event – Saturday, February 8, 2014**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event for Sullivan’s Island youth to be held from 10AM-12Noon at the Fire Station, 9:30AM set-up;
- Town will order cards and supplies to accommodate approximately 35 children;
- Refreshments: donut holes and water bottles;
- Advertisement through Town website and E-Newsletter.

### **V. Park Foundation Fundraiser: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Round on Mound,” Saturday, April 5, 2014**

- Foundation fundraiser to be held on top of mound at Stith Park on Saturday, April 5, 2014 in the evening. Administrator Benke noted that there is no anticipated construction or site preparation in/around Park mound for April. Chair Watson will advise Park Foundation that use of mound is approved.
- Nashville singers will provide entertainment again this year.
- Chair Watson will coordinate with Building Official Robinson for generator use.
- General discussion regarding tents, quantity and location near music, bar and food. Last year’s tent and venue configuration was good; however, more lighting was needed. Chief Stith recommends using two bigger tents in lieu of smaller tents, in case of inclement weather. Chair Watson will work on this concept.
- Chair Watson will get liability and workman’s compensation insurance started.

## **VI. Independence Day – July 4<sup>th</sup> (Friday)**

- Chair Watson noted she was contacted by the Town's past fireworks vendor (Zambelli) inquiring about fireworks for 2014.
- Administrator Benke noted shooting fireworks from the Park mound might be problematic for July 4<sup>th</sup> as the Town may be in pre-construction phase for the new Town Hall/Police Station project (July-August vendor's projected date).
- General discussion regarding about alternate firework venues in Park area. Chair Watson noted the fireworks deposit deadline is March 1, 2014.
- Committee discussed the possibility of shooting off fireworks on Memorial Day this year, due to anticipated construction. No consensus on this concept.

## **VII. Town Family Event in Stith Park – St. Patrick's Day (Monday)**

- Chair Watson inquired whether the Recreation Committee has been directed to organize a second family event in the Park on St. Patrick's Day.
- Administrator Benke advised he has received no instructions/direction from Council regarding this. It was noted St. Patrick's Day falls on Monday (March 17, 2014).
- General discussion regarding last year's (first) St. Patrick's Day family Park event, potential plans for 2014 event on Saturday, March 15, 2014, depending upon potential street closure, with no alcohol in the Park.

Committee consensus to hold this family event on Saturday, March 15, 2014; Chair Watson will add this item to the February Council Workshop meeting for report and general discussion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15p.m. (Councilwoman Hartley motioned; Councilwoman Middaugh seconded; unanimously passed).

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Jane Watson, Chairman  
Recreation Committee

Approved at June 17, 2014 Regular Council Meeting