

Notes of the Meeting of the Budget Committee – Village of Mamaroneck

January 20, 2015

In Attendance: Dan Margoshes – Chair; Douglas Dunaway; Dan Karson
Ex Officio: Richard Slingerland; Dan Sarnoff; Leon Potok

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 PM. The chair noted the absence of a quorum of members.

1. New Committee Liaison

Mr. Potok stated that Village Trustee Ilyssa Miller will be the new Board liaison to the committee.

2. Election of Committee Officers

Mr. Margoshes noted that in the absence of a quorum, election of committee officers could not take place.

3. Meetings with Village Department Heads

Mr. Margoshes stated that he would seek to schedule meetings with village department heads in the first week of February. Initially he will schedule meetings with the heads of Parks and Recreation and Buildings. Mr. Margoshes said that he would be interested in learning the capital requirements for the harbor and parks.

Mr. Sarnoff said that user fees set off program costs. Mr. Slingerland said that the Town of Mamaroneck runs the recreation programs. Mr. Sarnoff said that there is an advisory committee of volunteers who work with Parks on programs to be offered.

Mr. Margoshes suggested that the committee discuss the programs run by UK Elite, which is a private group.

Mr. Potok suggested charging event users 10% of gross revenue, as is the arrangement with Sportime. Mr. Slingerland said that Rye imposes a surcharge on every user of its parks. He suggested that we look at Rye and the Town of Mamaroneck to see what they do. He said that we have to balance cost and use, and not discourage people from using the fields.

At the request of Mr. Karson after the meeting, Mr. Slingerland provided the following comments on the subject via email:

In terms of significant events in our parks, such as the Southern Westchester Food and Wine Festival (SOWE – Mamaroneck), or the Harbor Island International Beer Festival sponsored by Half Time Beer, the issue of what to charge came up, and the Board wanted us to charge for all valid expenses, plus.

So we charged through – Electrician, Parks, Sanitation, Police, fire, a use fee for the park, et cetera. The end result was a bill that was over \$10,000 for each event. No one other event organizer, like the Kiwanis Car Show, or Harborfest, (though they are not-for-profits), has ever paid that level of charge.

The Board had referred this matter to the Budget Committee for a further recommendation. If we are charging through all applicable expenses, I would not charge any additional money like \$5,000 or \$10,000, in addition to all expenses, because then the event won't happen. However, the suggestion was made that we might charge through some percentage of profits. I will need to discuss that with our Village Attorney.

After discussion with the Budget Committee, I'll be taking this back to Recreation and we'll try to make a recommendation to the Board at the February 17th Work Session.

4. Harbor & Coastal Zone Management Commission

Mr. Slingerland suggested that the committee recommend a fee level for cases handled by the Harbor & Coastal Zone Management Commission. He said that applicants should pay fees to defray costs. He has informed staff that the village should not charge for the services of an engineer.

5. Village Audit

Mr. Potok said that the village audit was due next week.

6. Town of Rye

Mr. Potok said the village trustees will take up the issue of the dissolution of the Town of Rye.

The meeting concluded at 8:50 PM

Dan Karson
Secretary