

Council President Keeler called the meeting to order and requested those present to join her in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Attorney Arnette read the following statement:

THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW FOR THIS MEETING HAVE BEEN SATISFIED; A COPY OF THE NOTICE WAS SENT TO THE COURIER, THE LINK AND ADVERTISED IN THE ASBURY PARK PRESS, POSTED IN BOROUGH HALL AND FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOROUGH CLERK ON AUGUST 27, 2007.

Present: Councilmembers, Bills, Fernandes, Keeler, Kelly, Long, Scriven, Attorney Arnette and Borough Clerk Smeltzer.

Absent: Mayor Kalaka-Adams

4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SEA BRIGHT OCEANFRONT SKATEBOARD PARK GRANT APPLICATION, 1051 Ocean Avenue, Block 23 Lot 2.02, Sea Bright, NJ. Council President Keeler introduced Councilwoman Peggy Bills who worked with the Recreation Committee on the Skateboard Park.

Councilwoman Bills said that the Recreation Committee worked on the Skateboard Park project for over two years and it is time to make that dream a reality. Sea Bright's Recreation Committee offers many programs for its children. There is a need for kids to have a safe place. When there are no programs or events scheduled, the Skateboard Park would offer a safe haven for our children and children of neighboring communities. Sea Bright has a large population of skateboarders and there is an Ordinance prohibiting skateboarding on the sidewalk. The main road through Sea Bright is a state highway and there lies the danger of a car striking a child. The Recreation Committee is applying for a grant through the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Program which provides funding for public parks and recreational purposes.

5. PRESENTATION: David Hoder, P.E. of Maser Consulting.

Borough Engineer David Hoder of Maser Consulting said that this would be a Spohncrete type concrete skateboard park with dimensions of 116 foot by 50 foot plus 10 foot safety zones around all the sides. The park will include street-type structures as well as a four foot deep bowl. Surrounding the park will be an eight foot chain-link fence as well as landscaping, benches, native plants, water fountain and a bike rack.

Borough Engineer said that Sea Bright is the applicant for a Monmouth County Open Space Program grant. The grant amount would be \$153,000 and the estimated cost for the project would be \$367,000. The project is known as Block 23 Lot 2.02, and the property's size would be 1.35 acres. We would be using a small portion of its size for the facility. The location for this park would be on the north-east side of the Peninsula House property on Route 36 Ocean Avenue and it would extend out toward the

Ocean. There would be adequate parking and accessibility for both Sea Bright and County residents. The Borough would have in place adequate personnel for the Skateboard Park's maintenance.

The park would be made mostly of concrete it would be impervious to outside elements. The four feet deep bowl would have drainage. If the town gets approval for the grant, Sea Bright hopes to sign the agreement in January 2008 and have the design in the early spring. Before the summer we should be bidding the project. The beginning of its construction may be during or after the 2008 summer There are no environmental hazards on the site. This is a parcel of land already owned by the Borough of Sea Bright.

The objective here is to provide children and young adults with something to do and provide to them a popular sport. This Skateboard Park would be a positive attribute to Sea Bright's Recreation Program. As part of the application we need to name all of Sea Bright's Parks and open land areas. Sea Bright has about eight parcels coming to about fifteen acres including the Skateboard Park.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Rob Long of 1102 Ocean Avenue, Pastor of Sea Bright's Methodist church, member of the Recreation Committee and a parent said he supported the skateboard park. This would provide a safe and constructive place for children.

C Read Murphy of 6 Center Street said there are positive aspects for this program and it would provide a venue where Sea Bright's children could meet children from other communities.

Sharon Santello of 1052 Ocean Avenue said that her concerns regarded noise, the park's hours and supervision.

Councilwoman Bills said that Sea Bright would provide supervision. This would be a fenced park and not open after dark.

Shaun Morelli of 13 Center Street asked if they would be able to bike ride in the park.

Derf Mc Tighe owner of Island Style at 1032 Ocean Avenue said that this project would be a positive and safe arena for children by keeping them off the streets.

Andrew Mencinsky of 754 Ocean Avenue and Executive Director of Surfers Enviromental Alliance and said that this would be great for both Sea Bright's children and other communities.

Jason Baldeiserri of Long Branch said he helped design the layout of this park and kids were involved in its design.

Felecia Stratton of 19 Center Street said that this is a great sport for kids instead of watching TV or playing video games. It provides for exercise in the fresh air. Because of Sea Bright's Ordinance against skateboarding the kids have no other place to go that is close.

Christine Sinnot of 20 Center Street said she thought this was a positive program for this town. This would be an opportunity to give the children some place to go.

Teresa Bowler of 1171 Ocean Avenue said that she was in agreement with having the skateboard park.

Joan Osgoodby of 3 Islandview Way said that she witnessed cars along Ocean Avenue trying to avoid hitting children on skateboards and bikes. Let us build a skateboard park for our children before a tragedy occurs.

Ron Dylam of Union Beach said that he has been skateboarding for fifteen years and this was a good project keeping the kids safe.

Tom Stratton of 19 Center Street said that this is a great location for the park and the skateboard park would enhance Sea Bright.

Sharon Chessman a resident of Ocean Avenue said that as a resident of over 24 years it would be wonderful to have a park here rather than travel to Long Branch.

Edward Hennessey resident of Atlantic Highlands said that skateboard companies have money within their marketing budget which could help fund this project.

Sean Stratton of 19 Center said that there is no place for skating because of the Ordinance forbidding skateboarding.

Diana Burich a resident of 21 Tradewinds Lane said that she agreed with the support for the Skateboard Park.

Janet Sottile of 6 Church Street said that this would be a great opportunity for children to have a skateboard park.

Susie Markson of 1187 Ocean Avenue said that everyone should thank Felecia Stratton, the Recreation Committee Chairperson for her work on this project.

Andrew Dylan of Belmar said that this would be a safe place to go to, it would be supervised, and users would wear proper safety equipment.

Arlene Bagleno of Island View Way said that the children need a safe place and this park would offer that to the kids.

Barbara Turbak of 23 Island View Way and a member of the Recreation Committee said this would make Sea Bright a destination place by bringing children and their parents from other towns. This would bring business to the merchants and put Sea Bright on the map.

Kathy Morris of 28 Island View Way and member of the Recreation Committee said that she heard many good ideas regarding the Skateboard Park. Everyone has been very positive and Sea Bright could make this happen.

Matt Robertson of Rumson said that they would be happy not getting in trouble for skateboarding in town and have a

Skateboard Park instead.

Andrew Mencinsky said that Sea Bright's businesses would receive revenue because children and their parents would be visiting the Skateboard Park.

Joan Osgoodby said of 3 Island View Way said that the Recreation Committee would work towards attaining private funding to offset any potential costs to the town.

There being no one else of the Public who wished to be heard Councilman Scriven made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 P.M. Second by Councilwoman Fernandes and approved upon unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryann M. Smeltzer
Municipal Clerk