



Recreation Meeting Minutes January 28, 2025

Don Bogardus	Chairperson	Present
Kelly Eller	Vice Chairperson	Absent
Danielle Conroy	Member	Present
Lynn Apolinaro	Member	Present
Marla Rodriguez	Member	Absent
Mark Scott	Member	Absent
Vacant	Member	
Vacant	Alternate #1	
Vacant	Alternate #2	
Cris Franco	Council Liaison	Present

Also present was Debbie Armeno, Director of Recreation.

Debbie Armeno opened the meeting at 7:08 pm, all stood for a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Debbie Armeno conducted a roll call then as for the reorganization asked for a nomination for a the Chairperson of the Committee. Lynn Apolinaro nominated Don Bogardus and Danielle Conroy second, all were in favor, Don accepted. Debbie Armeno then asked for the nomination for Vice Chair, Danielle Conroy nominated Kelly Eller, Don Bogardus seconded the motion, all were in favor. Kelly did express interest in the position even though she could not attend the meeting.

Debbie Armeno then turned the meeting over to Chairperson Don Bogardus.

The Recreation Chairperson asked for approval of December 10, 2024 minutes, Danielle Conroy made the motion and Lynn Apolinaro second, all were in favor.

The Recreation Chairperson asked Council Liaison Cris Franco for her report. Cris gave a brief report on several items mentioned at the January 21 Council meeting.

The Recreation Chairperson asked Recreation Director Debbie Armeno for her report.

1. We have 701 families registered for a Community Pass account.
2. Finishing up the 2025 Local Recreational Improvements Grant, we asked for \$185,000.00 for various improvements at Co Johnson Field. These include:
 - a. Skate Park repairs- pave under equipment- \$90,000.00
 - b. Wood Beam Guiderail- \$25,000.00
 - c. Access Road Fencing- \$10,000.00

- d. Large Parking Area paving-\$60,000.00
- 3. In the packets handed out are Spring flyers that have been planned and, on our website, and in the Community Pass Catalog.
- 4. I am trying to work the school on USA Sports camps after the school camps to give the parents a full day option. Waiting on the school for solid dates.
- 5. Our Senior Exercise program is going well, we see 13-16 people weekly.
- 6. New Country Line Dancing has 11 people registered and is going well. I am trying to get an evening class going.
- 7. Mini Movers Dance has seen growth so we can run it, we have 10 little ones dancing.
- 8. Chef it Up is going well with 9 students registered.
- 9. We sold 42/46 tickets for the Devils game on Jan. 14. Everyone who went had a great time and the whole group took a photo on the ice after the game.
- 10. I attended the Municipal Alliance County meeting on January 9, there was a talk from the Center for Prevention and Counseling. We have received additional monies and are working on some new programs and trying to get a new Committee together.
- 11. From what I saw on Facebook the Coat Drive looked like it went well, thanks to those who worked it and those who donated.
- 12. Our Holiday Decorating Contest Winners received their awards at the Dec. 17 Council meeting.
- 13. Ski Club is going well, we have 35 skiers and 7 chaperones. We skied on Jan 8 and 15 then cancelled on Jan 22 due to cold, we will then ski Jan 29, Feb 5, and Feb 12. We have a lot of 1st time skiers this will help build our program.
- 14. Spring Sports Council meeting will be Thursday January 30 at 8pm in the Municipal Building.

Debbie also went over Fall Community Pass participation numbers and updated the Committee on the Spring 2025 participation numbers thus far.

Recreation Chairperson asked if there was an Events Committee report, Danielle Conroy spoke on the Coat Drive success and maybe next year we just have it at the Food Pantry, the Committee thought that would be a great idea.

There was brief discussion on the February 16 Polar Plunge, Debbie mentioned some items she is working on:

- a. Cut a hole in ice, who will take care of that?
- b. Purchase hot chocolate and doughnuts
- c. I already emailed all Emergency Services with the date and time
- d. Will get a meeting with Jesse to see what she needs.

There was a brief discussion on Byram Fest 2025- Debbie mentioned she has been in contact with Howard at Mega Bite and Food Trucks are lining up for us already, Don mentioned that we need to

rotate them every 2 years so it's not always the same. For the next meeting there will be a budget set up and gone over.

Debbie explained to the Committee that our June 10 meeting must be moved due to the NJ Primary has been moved to that date. Don made a motion to move the meeting to June 11, Mark Scott second and all were in favor.

There were no agenda topics for the February 11, 2025 meeting

Recreation Chairperson Don Bogardus opened the meeting to the public:

Dina Trunzo spoke on history of the Municipal Alliance that she was apart of many years ago.

Danielle Conroy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lynn Apolinaro second, all were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Armeno

Director of Recreation