



Recreation Meeting Minutes March 11, 2025

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

Also in attendance was Debbie Armeno, Director of Recreation.

Recreation Chair Don Bogardus opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. all stood for a salute to the flag and a moment of silent reflection.

The Recreation Chair asked Debbie Armeno to take the roll call.

The Recreation Chair explained that there was not a quorum for the February meeting so handed out were informal notes, there is nothing to approve.

Recreation Chair asked for the Council Liaison report from Cris Franco- she stated there was nothing really for Recreation, but we did swear in a new Polcie Chief, Guy Mariani and said goodbye to Dan DeWald.

Recreation Chair asked Debbie Armeno for her report:

We have 758 families registered for Community Pass, and we have had some movement on our Spring selections. We have sold out on our Aladdin trip.

I have put together a Spring/Summer Brochure, I have removed some things that have been completed from the Spring Brochure and will now release a Spring/Summer Brochure so people can begin to prepare and save the dates.

I spoke to Radio City today about possibly taking in 2 buses on the same day in December if I can get a great price. I am looking at Dec 6 (Sat) or Dec 14(Sun).

Ski Club concluded and all went really well. If we grow again we may need to add a smaller bus, it was a little cramped. The Chaperones were awesome and Jennifer S was amazing as my Advisor.

I created and put out "table tents" at Stonewood, Leggo My Bagel, Carlos, and Primos Hoagies. I would hope this will bring attention to all we have to offer.

I attended the NJRPA Conference Feb 23-26 and it was great. I attended many sessions that I was able to take away a little bit from each to bring back here. This Conference always energizes me, and the networking we can do there is a wonderful tool.

All the Playground Equip is in at CO, they are now preparing the ground with gravel and grading so when the weather is warmer the surface can be put down. We will plan a grand opening once all is complete.

Tennis Courts outside will have its Grand Opening on Tuesday April 15 at 6pm. Our tennis instructors will be on hand with demo equipment and a table with our flyers to have people try pickleball and tennis and hopefully sign up for lessons.

Debbie Armeno suggested that the Events Committee be this entire body of people and if a sub-committee is needed then we can do that. All agreed.

Debbie Armeno discussed the Polar Plunge that will be Sunday March 16, it was explained that we are making it a St. Patrick's Day theme and small give aways have been purchased from Oriental Trading to give out. Parking will be across the dam and the Scouts will help with getting folks over to the beach, Debbie has made "Event Parking" signs out of old yard signs to help funnel the cars to the lot.

Debbie Armeno wanted to discuss the Outdoor Concert, after extensive research, countless hours watching You Tube the band picked is The Wood Vibration, Deb pulled up the band on You Tube for the Committee to watch, they agreed the band was good and excited for the concert.

Debbie Armeno wanted to discuss the Outdoor movie and pulled up several trailers for the Committee to watch, it was decided that Inside/Out 2 will be shown on August 2, 2025 at CO Johnson Field.

Debbie Armeno then discussed the progress she is making on Byram Fest 2025.

1. We have contracted with Mega Bite Events again this year.
2. We have secured all Food Trucks, COI, Contracts, and Hold Harmless forms.
3. We have secured the DJ and received all forms back.
4. Face painter has been emailed just waiting to hear back.
5. Debbie presented 3 Inflatable vendors to the Committee and went over pricing, going to ask for references from other Rec Department before committing to the lowest quote.
6. Debbie spoke a little on the layout for the day and suggested that our May Committee meeting be held at the Field to go over the layout as a Committee and all agreed. We want to change it up a little so being on site would work.

Debbie Armeno mentioned that the Field schedule has been released and that fields are closed until April 15 or otherwise informed. Everyone needs to stay off because they are wet due to an extremely wet winter and need to dry out. Debbie also mentioned that she will be a presence on fields this year checking who is using space and if Coaches are certified with fingerprints and Rutgers certification.

Debbie Armeno asked Kelly about the flyer for the Fishing on June 10, 2025. We would like to use the Boat Launch off S. Shore Rd. Deb will call the State to see if any permits are needed.

The Recreation Chair mentioned that all the announcements have been discussed already.

There was a brief discussion on building use and a new working relationship with the schools when the new Superintendent comes on board. Also discussed in the possible loss of the big meeting room for programs and that the Field House is not big enough for some programs.

There were no agenda topics for the next meeting brought up.

The Recreation Chair opened the meeting to the public, the 1 public attendee had nothing except people are asking if she will bus from Day Care to our after camp program.

Mark Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lynn Apolaro seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah J. Armeno

Director of Recreation.