

**Franklin Borough Recreation**  
**Minutes for**  
**February 7, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Chairwomen, Mrs. Sanchez, who then led the assembly in the flag salute.

Mrs. Sanchez read the Statement of Compliance pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975."

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Mrs. Christina Sanchez Chairwoman (Present)  
Mr. Concetto Formica Co- Chairman (Present)  
Mr. Anthony Marino (Absent)  
Mrs. Jennifer Giordano (Present)  
Mr. Joe Limon (Absent)  
Mrs. Donna Vreeland (Absent)  
Ms. Lindsay Erdmann (Absent)  
Mayor Giordano (Absent)  
Mrs. Formica Alternate #1 (Present)  
Mr. Davis Alternate #2 (Present)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

December 20, 2018 meeting Mrs. Sanchez Stated that she had the wrong CD. Mrs. Sanchez apologized and stated that she would have the meeting minutes for December 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 at the next meeting.

Mrs. Sanchez asked for a motion to approve the January 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting minutes. **Mrs. Formica made a motion to approve the January 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Davis.**

**Upon Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES Mrs. Sanchez, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Formica, Mr. Davis**

**NAYS: ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Giordano**

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:**

Mrs. Sanchez asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Mr. Formica made a motion to **Open to the Public. Seconded by Mrs. Formica.**

**All were in favor.**

Shane Hrbek – Rutherford Ave

Mr. Hrbek stated that he has all the information that he discussed briefly at the last meeting recording the bowling program.

Tamara Contreras – 121 South Rutherford Ave

Ms. Contreras asked why does are recreation program only do events and not programs. Ms. Contreras stated especially programs that are art related. Ms. Contreras suggested looking at the town of Cranford Ms. Contreras stated they have one of the best rec and parks programs. Ms. Contreras thought it would be a good idea for the

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Franklin Rec to have more consistent programs opposed to just an event. Ms. Contreras suggested looking at what they have to offer as a guide or to help with some ideas for Franklin's programs going forward.

Mr. Formica asked if there was a website that he could look up and Ms. Contreras stated that it is Cranford Park and Recs.

Mrs. Sanchez thanked Ms. Contreras for her suggestions.

Renee Hennings – Taylor Road

Stated that a few weeks ago Tamara Contreras came to one of their playground meetings. Ms. Contreras explained to the group that Franklin Forward needed a letter from both the recreation and the council showing that there has been discussion and proof that both recreation and council are willing to give approval and support to the idea of a new playground. Ms. Hennings stated at this time I would like to request from the recreation to draft up a letter for the playground committee so that we could give it to the Franklin Forward Alliance. Ms. Hennings stated that she would also be asking the same from the council.

Ms. Hennings read aloud the letter she received from the Forward Franklin Alliance explaining what exactly Franklin Forward alliance was looking for as far as what needed to be stated in the letter.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that she feels that the recreation commission and on board and would be willing to write a letter for Ms. Hennings to give to the Forward Franklin Alliance giving their approval and support. Mrs. Sanchez stated that she spoke to Mrs. McHose and Mrs. McHose was working on a letter on behalf of the town in support and approval on the new playground plan.

Mrs. Sanchez asked for a motion to support the new playground plan.

Mrs. Formica made the motion to support the new playground plan. Seconded by Mr. Davis.

**Upon Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES Mrs. Sanchez, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Giordano Mrs. Formica, Mr. Davis**

**NAYS: ABSTENTIONS:**

There was brief discussion on where the playground would be going. Mr. Formica asked if it would remain in the same area. Ms. Hennings said that she would like for the new playground to remain in the current location. Ms. Hennings also stated that there was mention of possibly moving it across the street next to the pavilion area and closer to the snack shack. Ms. Hennings believes that needs to be further discussed with Mrs. McHose.

Karen Roccisano – 12 Hemlock Drive

Mrs. Roccisano stated that she would first like to thank the board members for their support and approval on behalf of their FFA Grant (Forward Franklin Alliance) The Softball grant was approved and was approved for \$2,000 more then what they originally asked for. Mrs. Roccisano stated that their program is super excited. Mrs. Roccisano explained that the program ended up getting another estimate from another

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company called Turf grass. This company works on the turf at Yankee Stadium. Mrs. Roccisano explained what the plan was and they are hoping that the field will be ready for opening day which is Mid-April. Mrs. Roccisano stated when the field is finished and fixed it will be an actual regulation softball field.

Mrs. Roccisano went on to state that she would like all of the council and recreation members to be present. Mrs. Roccisano feels they were a big help in getting this grant and their softball program is very thankful.

Mrs. Roccisano also stated that at this time she would also like to request if at all possible the money that is put aside for field maintenance through the recreation budget. Mrs. Roccisano asked if this year they could use that money that is issued to the program every year on a new Batting cage. Mrs. Roccisano stated that clearly with receiving the grant to help with fixing the field that would not need money to go towards the field this year. However, Mrs. Roccisano explained how they desperately were in need of a new batting cage. Mr. and Mrs. Roccisano explained in detail and at length what needed to be fixed and what they needed to purchase to make the batting cage an ideal cage and set up for the softball teams. Mrs. Roccisano explained that she and her husband have been really researching and looking up different companies and differences in prices and brands. Mrs. Roccisano explained that she is not familiar with net language. Mr. Roccisano stated that they use a formula of some sort and the company would come out and measure and recommend exactly what we need.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that there is money in the budget for such things as far as fields and maintenance.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that she is not 100% sure on what steps she would have to take as far as the board approving such an expense. Mrs. Sanchez also went on to state now that the recreation commission is now a recreation Committee there might be more steps to get something like this approved as far as it going to the council level for the final approval.

Mrs. Sanchez suggested to Mrs. Roccisano that they produce a few different estimates or quotes for what exactly their program is looking for.

Mrs. Roccisano thanked the board and stated that she and her husband would do more research and do their part in getting the ball rolling.

Tamara Contreras – 121 South Rutherford Ave

Ms. Contreras stated that she forgot to mention that Forward Franklin is running another wellness expo this year and the date will be May 18<sup>th</sup> before this date was decided Ms. Contreras wanted it to be known that she ran it by all of the affinity groups. Ms. Contreras stated that she knows that date might sound familiar as it is the same day as your pageant. Ms. Contreras explained that she believes that it would make sense to do both events on the same day. Hopefully bringing crowds to both events. Go to wellness expo and then go to the Pageant. Ms. Contreras believes it would be a win for both events. Mrs. Sanchez and the board members agreed.

Mrs. Contreras thanked the board for their time and their thoughts.

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Mrs. Sanchez asked if there was anyone else at this time that would like to address the board. Mrs. Sanchez stated not seeing anyone coming forward at this time she would like a motion to close the meeting to the public at this time. **Mr. Formica made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Seconded by Mr. Davis**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Mrs. Sanchez stated that the first two were to see what the final cost was. Mr. Marino our treasurer is not here tonight and he was going to give us a quick report. Mrs. Sanchez stated that would have to be conducted at the next meeting when Mr. Marino is here.

Mrs. Sanchez wanted to just let everyone know that she did her own small report on the tree lighting and the house decorating contest. As far as the tree lighting event the board budgeted for \$1,250 dollars and came in at just over \$600.00. Mrs. Sanchez stated we came way below the budget. Mrs. Sanchez also stated that the only cost for the house decorating contest was the cost of the prizes which were visa gift cards totaling \$674.72 which was the cost of all of the gifts cards including the 4.95 surcharge fee.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that the signs were generously donated by the Formica family. Movie and chocolates night is being chaired by Bobbie and Tony and will be taking place tomorrow night.

Mrs. Formica briefly gave a report on the event. Mrs. Formica stated that the budget that was granted for this event was \$ 200.00. Mrs. Formica stated that she only spent \$54.15.

The only thing I did not purchase was styrofoam cups because Mrs. Formica believes that there might be cups in the snack shack or left over in the senior center building left over from the tree lighting.

Spring Fling Mrs. Sanchez explained that Mr. Limon who is not here tonight is the chair for the Spring Fling. I know that Mr. Limon mentioned that he would be securing the location down for the event and would work on some other details. Mrs. Sanchez explained that she has been doing her own research as far as budget and other Spring Fling details and she knows what was spent last year and that may better help us when budgeting for the event this year. She also knows that there is typically a committee that picks the senior of the Year Award. Mrs. Sanchez also went on to state that typically the event has a theme. Mrs. Sanchez suggested that we table this discussion to the next meeting as well and wait until Mr. Limon is here to better address the budget and the details of the event.

**OLD BUSSINESS:**

Change from Commission to Committee (Ordinance No 01-2019)

Mrs. Sanchez briefly updated the board on the new Ordinance.

Mrs. Sanchez explained what she believed as being the most important points or differences that she sees is in changing from a commission to a committee. Mrs.

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Sanchez stated that the current members on the commission are currently being appointed to the committee at the next Council Meeting. Mrs. Sanchez also stated that there would not be alternates. All current members even the alternates would be regular members as of the next council meeting.

The budget for the year still needs to be addressed. Mrs. Sanchez stated there are big ticket items that need to be addressed so we can present a budget to the council.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that there are still a lot of questions and loose ends that we have to figure out. Mrs. Sanchez is working with Alison to work out some more details and how things would change as far as budget and protocols going forward.

Mrs. Sanchez briefly spoke about Franklin Day and stated that we need to keep in mind a come terms with a specific date. Mrs. Formica asked if we would be having Fireworks for Franklin Day. Mrs. Sanchez stated again we need to really have a discussion on what the commission/ Committee wants to do plan as far as Franklin Day, the 5k and the opening of the pond.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that the members need to keep these specific events in mind. Mrs. Sanchez stated that she has a suggestion to maybe table this discussion for a later meeting when and if new members join the committee and they have some input and would also like to volunteer to chair an event. Mrs. Sanchez stated that she does not want to postpone the topics to long because spring and summer are around the corner and we need to start getting the bigger events in order.

**NEW BUSSINESS:**

Mrs. Sanchez moved on to new business stating that she would briefly give the members an update on the fluorescent 5K. Mrs. Sanchez stated that John Postas is taking the lead on that event. Mrs. Sanchez stated that right now the date has been moved from August 24<sup>th</sup> to August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Sanchez also mentioned and spoke briefly about a possible donation given by the SB One Bank. Mrs. Sanchez explained that the SB One Bank is just asking for a letter from the recreation statin what the donation would be for. Mrs. Sanchez briefly went over some items from last year that are left over and could be used for this year. Members spoke about different ideas and thoughts they had for this year's 5K event.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that John Postas is already making headway with organizing this event. Mrs. Sanchez stated that she would check in with Mr. Postas time to time to get updates and would share with the members when she heard of any new updates.

Mrs. Sanchez spoke briefly on maintenance funds being available.

Mrs. Sanchez also mentioned that the committee would need to appoint a field coordinator (A member from the committee) Mrs. Sanchez stated that it would be to manage the field and when it's available and what organization is using it when. Keeping a calendar of the fields. Mrs. Sanchez stated that this would be discussed more when and if they the committee gains new members.

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Mrs. Sanchez stated that the next item on the agenda is looking ahead for different ideas and events in the spring and summer/ Pond Activities. The members and the members of the public had a lengthy conversation on the concession stand. Committee members and members of the public suggested all different kinds of ideas on what can be done as far as the concession stand.

Mrs. Sanchez stated the weekend of the pond opening the committee would like to have the movie Jaws showing on the beach. Mrs. Sanchez stated that it was so hard to get the showing in because all of the rain last year. Mrs. Sanchez stated that we also have different music related nights planned, a glue party, ect. Mrs. Sanchez also stated that they defiantly want to plan the Arts and Crafts program. Mrs. Formica stated that she would like to nominate Mrs. Kathleen Clohessey to run the program this year. Mrs. Formica stated that Mrs. Clohessey was fabulous and the kids love her. Mrs. Clohessey thanked Mrs. Formica and said she would love to run the arts and crafts program this year at the pond. Mrs. Clohessey stated that she has always wanted to have a program a daily program almost like a summer camp at the pond and now that the pond is open there is no better time to really look into what it would take to get something like this started over the summer for the kids and their families. The members agreed and stated that this would be something they would look into.

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Formica gave a brief update on National Night Out Event.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mrs. Sanchez not hearing any more new business, Mrs. Sanchez asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Mrs. Formica made a motion to close the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Davis.**

**All were in favor.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:29PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Babcock  
Planning Board Secretary