

Franklin Borough: Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes for

September 18, 2025

This meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by the Chairperson, Mr. Babcock, who then led the assembly in the flag salute. Mr. Babcock read the statement on compliance pursuant to the "Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975"

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Mr. Fredrick Babcock – Chairperson (present)
Mr. James Affinito - Vice-Chairperson (present)
Mrs. Crystal Talmadge – Member (present)
Ms. Sarah McGreevy – Member (absent)
Mrs. Lisa Wagoner – Member (absent)
Mrs. Christine Affinito – Member (present)
Mrs. Jennifer Torres – Member (present)
Mrs. Rachel Heath - Council Liaison (absent)
Ms. Suzann Brush – Secretary (present)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- September 4, 2025

Mrs. Talmadge made a motion to approve September 4, 2025 meeting minutes.
Mr. Affinito second the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Affinito, Mrs. Talmadge

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Affinito, Mrs. Torres

APPROVED

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

None in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORT

- Treasure:
 - Reviewed Budget

OLD BUSINESS:

- Yankee Game Bus Trip:
 - Mr. Affinito confirmed trip details.
 - Bus payment will be ready for 9/27/25.
- NJ Devils Bus Trip:
 - March 8, 2026 Devils v Detroit
 - \$75 per ticket
 - Section 231, Row 5, 6, 7
 - Bus \$1300 (vote/requisition needed)
- Wind Creek Casino Bus Trip:
 - November 15, 2025
 - \$35 per ticket, \$25 back in play at casino.
 - Bus \$1400 (vote/requisition needed)

- Fishing Derby:

- o On 9/4/25, Mr. Concetto Formica addressed the Recreation Committee in public session. The Recreation Committee did not vote or approve at that time.
- o On n 9/9/25, Mayor & Council voted and approved Mr. Concetto Formica to host the fishing derby as a Borough supported event.
- 9/11 Memorial:
 - o Overall feed back was excellent!
 - o Rec looking into purchasing lighting and a podium.
 - o For 2026, invite VFW and surrounding first responder agencies.
 - o Rec to start fundraising to purchase a memorial, est. cost \$4850.
 - o Podium purchase budget: \$300.
 - o Move \$300 from fishing derby account to 9/11 account.

Mr. Affinito made a motion to approve moving \$300 from the fishing derby account to the 9/11 memorial account to purchase a podium not to exceed \$300.

Mrs. Talmadge second the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Affinito, Mrs. Talmadge, Mrs. Affinito, Mrs. Torres

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

APPROVED

- Halloween:
 - o Sat. Oct. 25, 2025
 - o Parade @ 12pm/Franklin School PTO Trunk-or-Treat @ 1pm/Halloween party at Fireman's Pavillion 5-8pm
 - o DJ/Lighting – Aldo Sanchez \$500 encumbered
 - o Wallkill Valley Drug Alliance: \$434.11 reimbursement from Hardyston Twp.
 - o Rec to ask local pizzerias for pizza donations.
 - o Any business that donates will be displayed on a sponsor banner.
 - o Remaining Budget: \$1400
- Christmas Parade (Judy Williams):
 - o Sat. Dec. 20, 2025, approx. 5-6pm
 - o Mr. Babcock is reaching out to Mrs. Williams to establish a co-committee for planning.
 - o Rec to discuss building a "float" to be in the parade.
 - o Rec asking legion to participate.
- Carnival:
 - o McDaniel's Brothers – 2026 dates will be provided after the 2025 season ends the 3rd week of October.
 - o Garden State Fireworks:
 - Reservation – Sat. June 27, 2026
 - Cost: \$14, 817
 - Pending reply on additional cost for a larger display.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Field Use:
 - o Softball Field – dugouts tentatively to be completed by the end of November 2025.
 - Quotes are pending
 - o Baseball Field – Justin Bello, League President, requested recreation and DPW's help with removing grass and making the outfield all clay and batting cage fence removal. Mr. Babcock has addressed this directly.
- Sponsor/Donation Requests:
 - o Reviewed recreation bylaws and discussed soliciting local businesses for donation.
- Franklin's Frontline Fishing Derby:

- o Recreation donation - \$150

Mr. Affinito made a motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$150 toward Franklin's Frontline Fishing Derby.

Mrs. Talmadge second the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Affinito, Mrs. Talmadge, Mrs. Affinito, Mrs. Torres

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

APPROVED

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS:

- Next Meeting: 10/2/25
- Secretary to inquire if a sitting rec member can be hired and paid to make shirts/sweatshirts.
- Secretary to inquire if a certified letter should be mailed to chronic absentee member before voting to remove.
- Mrs. Affinito – suggested rec members establish a "wish list" based on priority.
- Ms. Brush, Recreation Secretary, is resigning effective October 1, 2025.
- The Recreation Committee has made a recommendation that Mrs. Affinito fill the role of Recreation Secretary. Being sent to Admin.

AJOURNMENT:

Mr. Babcock asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Affinito made the motion. Seconded by Mrs. Torres.

All were in favor. *The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm