

Florence Township Recreation Committee Minutes 2/2/26

The Florence Township Recreation Committee held a reorganization meeting on 1/12/26 at the Florence Township Municipal Building 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey. Members of the public were invited to attend the meeting in person.

The meeting was called to order by Recreation Committee Chairman, Tony Pastore at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Tony Pastore, Mary Pieretti, Don Nemeth, Tom Boracci, Martin Eckert, Cindy Golway, Donna Sadler, TJ Lovenduski, Toniann, Councilman Joseph Frappolli, Caitlin Motta, Vincent Mancuso

Absent: Toniann Carroll, Tom Supey

Public:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting of December 6, 2025 (Golway; Sadler)

NOMINATION OF 2026 COMMITTEE OFFICERS AND LIAISONS

- A. Chairman – Tony Pastore (Motion by Sadler, Second by Lovenduski – Unanimous)
- B. Vice Chairman – TJ Lovenduski (Motion by Sadler, Second by Boracci – Unanimous)
- C. Secretary – Caitlin Motta (Motion by Sadler, Second by Golway – Unanimous)

- D. Baseball – Vince Mancuso
- E. Softball – Donna Sadler
- F. Soccer – Tom Boracci
- G. Field Hockey – Donna Sadler
- H. Football/Cheerleading – Don Nemeth & Cindy Golway
- I. Basketball (Girls/Boys) – Toniann Carroll & Mary Pieretti
- J. Cricket Association – Tony Pastore
- K. Outreach, Wellness, Events – Pastore, Motta, Sadler, Golway, Pieretti, Carroll & Nemeth

(Approved via committee majority vote)

(Committee discussed league representatives serving on committee will handle liaison duties for respective programs. At the end of 2026 committee will review to confirm effectiveness. Committee additionally decided that monthly minutes and agendas will be forwarded to league presidents and will encourage representative from leagues attend meetings, especially prior to the start of in-season activity and during season).

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT #1

None at this time

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COORDINATORS REPORT

- **2025 Recreation Basketball** – Marty Eckert provided that the basketball season games have just begun. Coordination through school district maintenance department has gone well. Gates in hallways are being kept closed. There will be a league meeting later in January to follow up on progress of program. Overall numbers look good and multiple townships are involved again this season (Florence, Burlington Twp, Burlington City, Edgewater Park, Northern Burlington).

There were some questions from the committee regarding the instructional program and how it is structured. Marty was not aware of the specific structure at the time but would follow up with the program. Mary Pieretti also noted that she will reach out to introduce as the liaison.

CORRESPONDENCE

- No correspondence received at time of meeting agenda.

FACILITIES

Municipal Facilities

Recreation Baseball will be working on improvements to batting cage and concession stand over winter months.

- **Board of Education Facilities**

2026 Insurance renewal has been completed and submitted to school district. Marty discussed booking gym and apr at Riverfront School for indoor clinics for baseball/softball. Marty will coordinate scheduling with Donna Sadler once approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Pickleball Project:** All materials to fence perimeter and paint & seal surface has been ordered. Once weather breaks from winter the project will be completed on the court and public works will handle the install and the concrete sidewalk. Signage will be placed and Marty will review for sound buffer on streetside of fence. Fencing will be 6' in height.
- **Fieldhouse Updates:** Marty and Councilman Frappolli confirmed that the bid will be reviewed for approval at an upcoming council meeting in January. From there more information will be provided about scheduling of work, etc. Marty is reviewing next phases for the project currently to keep things moving and monitoring budget.

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NEW BUSINESS

2nd Saturday Events – The committee discussed planning and scheduling 2nd Saturday activities. First priority is to determine a Valentines Day activity. The committee agreed that something during the day for children would be an ideal first event. The subcommittee is going to look into some options and will coordinate. Marty is going to update the committee with the calendar of dates and existing activity that is scheduled at the building.

PUBLIC COMMENT #2

None.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Donna Sadler & Vince Mancuso Discussed the interest of placing a fence around Legion Field. Expressed that it would support leagues and offer an additional field for tournament play. There was a question about available fencing and materials. Marty shared that the fencing is used and may not be in the condition and would not have the length to fence an entire field but would check with public works. It was also shared that a portion of the outfield in the past did extend onto the American Legion property. Marty will inquire with the township administrator about that.
- Caitlin Motta inquired about establishing a gmail account for communication for community center and event activity. Marty agreed that it would streamline communication and would allow for the committee to answer inquiries quickly. Marty shared that he is happy to be copied on emails going out as well as needed.
- Donna Sadler – Discussed field light needs. Marty and Councilman Frappolli will discuss with administration and it will be reviewed during budget period. Currently leagues do have the ability to discuss with an electrician and if a repair is needed, they can receive a quote. Councilman Frappolli expressed that he will review the information about the LED opportunity and the lighting repair needs as a safety concern as well.
- Tom Boracci –expressed a similar lighting concern relating to Veteran’s Soccer field. Additionally, the program has reviewed the possibility of acquiring portable LED lighting poles for use at the Marter Soccer Complex. The committee discussed and recommended that the ambient light be considered and the impact on the roadway traffic and neighboring homes. Either Marter 2 or Lower Marter Fields may be appropriate locations to consider and less of a consideration should be Marter 1 at this time. Green Acres lighting restrictions were considered as well and would need to be reviewed.
- Cindy Golway and Don Nemeth – Shared that helmet reconditioning is taking place. In February the program will be holding election for officers and information will be provided to committee liaisons. There was a question about electric load in the concession stand and a need to have that looked at before the fall season. There was a question about additional storage for equipment

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because the upstairs of the concession stand is overloaded and if Babe Ruth Baseball needs to use the press box for games, the area needs to be cleared and equipment secured.

Councilman Frappolli – Shared his appreciation with the committee for the past year's efforts. Believes that this group does a lot in support of the leagues and community and there is a lot of good to be done in this new year. Councilman Frappolli shared that he takes extensive notes and provides reporting to council and will continue to do so to provide answers or feedback to help further the committee's initiatives.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Boracci, second by Sadler – 9:20 pm