

Florence Township Recreation Committee Minutes 6/1/26

The Florence Township Recreation Committee held a regular meeting on 5/4/26 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, Councilman Joseph Frappolli, Caitlin Motta, Toniann Carroll, Vince Mancuso

Absent: Tom Supey

Public: None Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of April 6, 2026 (Golway; Sadler)

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No public present

COORDINATORS REPORT

Monthly Reporting to Township Council – Marty shared with the committee that beginning with the month of March, department supervisors are providing reports to the township council where information is shared based on the scope of the department’s monthly work. As it relates to recreation, Marty is highlighting topics that are covered within the recreation committee. This is another measure to ensure communication along with the continued support provided by Councilman Frappolli, as he takes provides feedback directly to council and administration from meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE

Competitive Cheer Program – Cindy Golway

Committee Member/ Cheer Coordinator Cindy Golway provided the plans of the recreation cheer program to continue to grow and support the advancement of the program by implementing a competition level of cheer. There will be tryouts and expectations for participants to be active with the sideline cheer groups in order to take part in the competition portion of the program. There will be a time commitment as well as a fee schedule as uniforms, competitions and other needs require additional support. In early June there will be the initial tryouts, and Cindy will provide information to the committee as it develops further. Cheer mats will be shifting to the community center due to start of construction in old garage.

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FACILITIES

Municipal Facilities

Marty shared that continued effort by public works and water & sewer maintain the recreation grounds and surrounding areas. PW communicates regularly with recreation leagues.

Board of Education Facilities

n/a

OLD BUSINESS

Pickleball Project: Marty shared that the pickleball courts will be completed in May and ready for use. There are plans to begin tennis in early Summer and Marty and Mary Pieretti are coordinating options for pickleball clinics. Marty will prepare a report to council on the project and will share with the members of the committee.

2nd Saturday Events: The committee discussed the success of the events and that it will continue to take shape as the year continues, making it easier to prepare a lineup for 2027. A new flyer is being prepared for trivia night and will need to be marketed. The committee talked about the possibility of signage in town to promote events. Tony Pastore recommended we consider changing the combination for the lock at the community center now that there aren't public rentals. Don Nemeth shared that we should coordinate painting the doors at the community center, maintaining flower beds and look at other maintenance needs to keep the property and building from deteriorating. Don also expressed that No Parking Signs should be around the community center on the property

Fieldhouse: The pre-construction meeting has now taken place and a work schedule will be forthcoming where phase 1 of the project will commence. This includes the leveling of the main floor and renovation of the former locker room, making it a handicapped accessible restroom.

NEW BUSINESS

Cricket Pitch Renovation: Tony shared that the cricket program at their own expense is planning on creating a turf pitch and is working with the township on the approval to begin that process this Spring. This will be a more sustainable surface and further enhance the program. The committee was supportive of this initiative and thanked Tony for managing the program and its needs, etc.

AED's: Marty shared with the committee that he has communicated with the police department regarding the purchase of new AED's and will work with the police and fire department about training for various programs. The plan is for every league to have at least one AED. More information to follow.

PUBLIC COMMENT #2

n/a.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee – Playground nearest the football field is in poor condition. Committee recommends that it is closed for use until repaired. Soft surface is destroyed in several areas.

Committee – Suggested when there is signage for new playgrounds, we should add NO CLEATS as a rule.

Committee – Suggests revisiting placing a camera at the playground. Councilman Frappolli shared that he would discuss with the administrator along with the nicer weather about police presence on the complex as part of their patrols.

Committee – When there is playground maintenance it is suggested to remove the tandem swing from the new playground. It is constantly misused and is deteriorating and may become an injury risk if left there.

Marty Eckert – Marty shared that he is working on summer opportunities to utilize opioid funds and is working with the police department on options as well.

Don Nemeth – Restroom facilities are not being thoroughly cleaned for spring programs.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Motta, second by Sadler – 8:25 pm