

## Florence Township Recreation Committee Minutes 12/4/23

The Florence Township Recreation Committee held a regular meeting on the above date at the Municipal Complex (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 Chairman, Tony Pastore at 7:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Kim Dembowski, TJ Lovenduski, Tom Supey, Mary Pieretti, Donna Sadler, Don Nemeth, Cindy Golway, Tony Pastore, Caitlin Motta, Tom Boracci, Martin Eckert Jr.

Absent: Paul Ostrander, Fred Dunphy

Also Attending: Michael Muchowski

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting of September 11, 2023

Motion of Sadler, seconded by Supey to approve the minutes as submitted.

### COORDINATORS REPORT

- **Fall Recreation Programs:** Marty reported that all fall programs have been running well. Lead officers communicate regularly as to any needs and general progress of the season. Cheer shared that they will begin expanding practices to accommodate for competition preparation. This requires the additional mats to be placed, so public works coordinated the set up and it is working out very well.

### CORRESPONDENCE

- **Inquiry to Use Baseball Field:** Marty reconfirmed that discussions with USA Prime Baseball confirmed that our recreation fields were not eligible to be used as “rental” locations by programs. Any request would need to be formally submitted to the township for review. After reviewing, request would come to the recreation committee for feedback and vote if needed. Marty spoke with the baseball program regarding the issue as well.

### FACILITIES

- **Municipal Facilities:** The township water department will begin shutting down sprinkler systems and blowing out irrigation lines in mid/late October. Restroom facilities will remain active until the conclusion of the fall programs.
- **Locking Restroom Facilities:** Marty sent reminders to programs about locking restroom doors after practices and games.

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- **Softball Field Infield Areas:** The committee discussed the infield areas of both Muchowski & Veterans Softball fields, further identifying maintenance needs. Mickey Muchowski shared that he would be speaking with the township water & sewer department to set up a time to meet at the field to review the area and consider maintenance needed.
- **Board of Education Facilities:** Marty has submitted facilities requests for open gym sessions in November/December for recreation basketball. Once the 2024 liability insurance declaration page is received from the insurance carrier, he will place requests for gym time in the New Year to run for the indoor season.

### OLD BUSINESS

- **Florence Twp Fieldhouse:** Marty did not have any additional information about the fieldhouse project at the time of the meeting.
- **Fall Festival:** The committee discussed further details finalizing the set up for the upcoming fall festival. Everything continues to come together and despite the need to reschedule due to weather, many vendors remain committed to the event. Food vendors have been provided information for the Florence Township Fire Dept to complete the fire permit process. Several members from the rec committee are involved with the planning of the event and/or are volunteering during the event.
- **Eagle Scout Project/Exercise Stations:** William Krzykalski is nearing completion of the project located in Roebing Park. The scouts with support from the township continue to complete pieces for the exercise stations. It is anticipated for completion by the end of October.

### NEW BUSINESS

- **Florence Twp Community Center** – Marty shared that he has been managing the community center since early summer and various exercise classes and private event rentals continue to be held weekly. The building use has been a positive, however it does require time for preparation and some evening or weekend needs for cleaning due to event usage. Marty expressed that if anyone knew someone that would be interested in cleaning the building after events to share his contact information for more details. There is a cleaning fee paid and the schedule allows for advanced notice for when events take place. It was asked if there was going to be a building manager hired to replace the previous individuals. Marty did not have an answer to that but has expressed the need for that.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Kim Dembowski:** Kim expressed interest in working with the township to support/promote girl scout community activity. Some efforts may be community clean up events or other town related needs. The Girl Scouts would receive merit recognition for their efforts but some towns offer small stipends or donations to the scouts which may be used to support scouting initiatives during the year. Everyone thought that it was a great idea to consider in the New Year.

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**Don Nemeth:** Don shared that the rec football and cheer season continue to go very well. The restroom facilities are being kept in much better condition with the public works staff member handling servicing the restrooms. Don noted that the game field goal posts still need to be painted. Also, the portable toilet on the practice field side has been a help as well due to the very large participation numbers this year. Don shared that the high school football program has a home game on Thanksgiving Day against Riverside and it will be Coach Joe Frappolli's final game after 50 years of coaching.

**Tom Supey:** Shared that there are some tree limbs behind the scout house that should be addressed prior to the Feast in the Woods in November, but as the scouts continue to use the property if they can be handled soon it would be a good idea. The wood may be left and the scouts can use for firewood. Tom shared that they've discussed with Ted Lovenduski as well.

**Tom Boracci:** Tom shared that there are again some problems with the one light tower on veterans' soccer field where the breaker pops. Also, if we have an extra restroom key for veterans' restrooms, could we set one in the soccer shed for Monica Seguin.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion of Supey, seconded by Motta – 8:05pm