

# HAMBURG RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Sep 24, 2024

## OPEN MEETING / FLAG SALUTE

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, with regards to notices, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Hamburg Recreation Commission is called to order at 7:07 pm, Sep 24, 2024 with a flag salute.

## ROLL CALL

Present: Sam Villagomez, Art Walton, Guiseppe Caserta, Kamikedell Wolf  
Also present: Councilmember Joyce Oehler  
Absent: Kye K. Lee

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jul 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes: Motioned by Art Walton, seconded by Guiseppe Caserta to approve. All members in Favor.

## FINANCE

Finance report was tabled until October's meeting due to more clarification in reference to Hamburg Day and complete balance of funds.

## OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

**Hamburg Day** - August 25th - Chairperson Sam Villagomez Stated that according to his digital counter, there were about 454 attendees at Hamburg day 2024, also that because of a thunderstorm Hamburg Day 2024 was closed down at around 3:30p.m.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler stated that Council has suggested to have more vendors, a hot dog and or hamburger vendor/food truck, a cover with table and chairs located by the food vendors so people can sit and eat.

Secretary Suzette Villagomez informed Councilperson Joyce Oehler and Board Members that 14 vendors were registered for Hamburg Day 2024, some of the vendors were a no show and some canceled.

Chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that for Hamburg Day 2025 we should be able to attract another food truck to have a variety of food and also the food truck that was there has told us they are willing to modify their menu to accommodate. Chairperson Sam Villagomez also stated that the recreation board went out to other events and collected vendor information for Hamburg Day 2024 and suggested to Councilperson Joyce Oehler for the council to help in acquiring some vendors as well.

Art Walton stated that because Hamburg Day 2024 was in the paper we can use that to attract more vendors.

Giuseppe Caserta asked if there was another way to count how many attended Hamburg Day 2024 as to show more proof of attendees so it will be easier to get vendors and food trucks to attend Hamburg Day 2025?

Secretary Suzette Villagomez stated that she can ask the food truck that was there for a rough count of how many sales they had for the day , but it wont help in overall numbers.

Giuseppe Caserta, who was helping with parking, stated that it was suggested to him by attendees, that there be some activities for adults and a cooling station as it was a hot day.

Chairperson Sam Villagomez suggested a car show and a scavenger hunt for both kids and adults.

Council Joyce Oehler suggested a ping pong tournament.

Secretary Suzette Villagomez suggested we move the music DJ to a separate location to free up the pavilion for a cooling station and more sitting under a shade.

Giuseppe Caserta asked about extra handicap spots available for Hamburg Day 2025, chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that they were 6 handicap spots available for Hamburg Day 2024, he also stated that for Hamburg Day 2025 we should use a two way radio for communication between the volunteers assisting with parking.

Art Walton asked if the recreation board has to purchase/rent large tents/covers for Hamburg Day 2025? Councilperson Joyce Oehler replied, she will ask if the Hamburg Boro has a cover/tent or maybe a resident that she knows might have one and they can loan it to us for the event.

Chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that upon hearing Giuseppe Caserta idea about the TREPS program, he has suggested to the Superintendent Mrs. Sigman, of Hamburg School to set up a table at Hamburg Day 2025. To invite Master Kye K. Lee has his demonstration, but we can also have a local dance studio demonstration, and be an exhibitor with a table as well.

Board Members agreed to start preparation for Hamburg Day 2025 in January 2025.

**Footgolf** - September - Art Walton stated a light turn out, attendees had a great time and prizes were given out. He also stated that his contact within the recreation soccer league was call away for service and communication was lost, however after the event he was able to reconnect. Art obtained others contact information within the soccer league and hopefully have better attendance for next year's event(s).

Chairperson Sam Villagomez asked Art Walton if registration can be held open until the day before events so as to not deter any late registrants, Art Walton agreed to push registration until the day before the event.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler asks Art Walton if the day of the event can change from a weekday to a weekend day. Art Walton agreed to change from a Friday to a Saturday or Sunday event(s).

**Trunk or Treat - October 27** - Chairperson Sam Villagomez asked for a board member to Chair this event.

Kamikedell Wolf volunteered to chair this event with help from Guisepe Caserta and Councilperson Joyce Oehler.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler stated that she has obtained a Costco Card to save money purchasing water and treats for Trunk or Treat and future events.

Chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that he will acquire the gift cards for the Trunk or Treat Event which are a \$35 local pizzeria gift card and 3x \$15 walmart gift card for costumes contest.

Secretary Suzette Villagomez stated she will send out the registration flyers to Hamburg School and send them to be posted on the boroughs social media

**Halloween Contest - October 15-31** - Chairperson Sam Villagomez reminded all board members about the contest and if possible to take pictures as to maybe place on the newsletter.

**Christmas Tree Lighting** - Chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that he will contact Hamburg School about the Band and Choir.

Kamikedell Wolf asked if the Recreation Commission will give out hot chocolate and cookies out to residents?

Secretary Suzette Villagomez informed Kamikedell Wolf that the “Tree Lighting” event is an auxiliary event and that we just volunteer to help.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler stated that she has formed a committee which includes Chairperson Sam Villagomez, Councilperson Mark Sena and herself to help chair this event.

**Breakfast with Santa** - Chairperson Sam Villagomez asked Councilperson Joyce Oehler if she can ask Russell Law to play Santa for our event.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler suggested that there be a chair and co-chair for “Breakfast with Santa” to share responsibilities.

Chairperson Sam Villagomez replied that he is the chair and that Secretary Suzette Villagomez helps with this event, however he agreed to delegate some of the responsibilities to other Board Members.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler asked about the shared events with Hardyston Recreation, Chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that due to issues in sharing funds and finances we have put that on hold until further notice, and will revisit in future.

Councilperson Joyce Oehler also stated that the Hamburg Council has agreed to allow Hamburg Recreation Commission to send out a newsletter/calendar of events with the water bill to inform residents of upcoming events.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Motioned by Kamikedell Wolf , seconded by Art Walton to open the meeting to the public. All members in favor.

Hermilyn Cruz who resides in Hamburg NJ, stated/ asked her daughter who doesn't attend Hamburg School anymore as she has graduated, If she would be able to participate with Hamburg School in reference to a TREPS program and table for Hamburg Day 2025?

Chairperson Sam Villagomez stated that he'll find more information and will get back to Hermilyn Cruz, Sam also suggested her daughter can become a vendor at Hamburg Day 2025.

Hermilyn Cruz also showed interest in joining the recreation board and asked Secretary Suzette Villagomez for application and information, given.

After hearing no further comments or questions from the public,

Motioned by Kamikedell Wolf, seconded by Guiseppe Caserta to close the meeting to the public. All members in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Secretary Suzette Villagomez stated that we received a letter from the Liberty Science Center about their group rates link and information about their calendar.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Kamikedell Wolf , seconded by Guiseppe Caserta to adjourn the meeting. All members in favor.

Date approved           Oct.15, 2024          

Date released           Nov. 19, 2024          

*Suzette Villagomez*

Suzette Villagomez

Borough of Hamburg Recreation Secretary