

HAMBURG RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER / FLAG SALUTE

Commission Chair Sam Villagomez called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and led all present in the flag salute.

Call to Order/Statement of Certification

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act" adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the public and the press January 12, 2025 by delivering to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday Herald and posting at the Municipal Building a copy of the Commission's "Annual Notice of Meetings".

ROLL CALL

Present: Sam Villagomez, Art Walton (telephonic), Frances Weiss
Also present: Council Liaison Joyce Oehler
Interim Secretary Jean Stephens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vice Chair Art Walton, seconded by Commission Member Fran Weiss to approve the June 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

July 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commission Member Weiss, seconded by Vice Chair Walton to approve the July 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

FINANCE

Members of the Commission discussed funds encumbered for remaining events. There was some confusion regarding the total funds for Hamburg Day until Council Liaison Oehler reminded members that the expenses were split between budgeted funds and the Trust account. Motion by Commission Member Weiss, seconded by Vice Chair Walton to approve the financial reports. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

Hamburg Day - August 24th

Chair Villagomez started by thanking everyone for making the event such a success. There was a count of 855 attendees. He would like to see it grow more next year. Council Liaison Oehler and Chair Villagomez agreed the roadside signage helped. Commission Member Weiss was thanked for obtaining the band for the event. Chair Villagomez also stated a better exit strategy at the end of the day is needed.

Footgolf - September 12th

Vice Chair Walton stated he had not had a lot of time to promote the event but everyone in attendance had a great time. Approximately ten in attendance. He noted the local coaches stated a later time would work better as most of their players do not get off their school buses until almost 4:30pm. Vice Chair Walton suggested a later start time and /or a change in season for the event might help attendance.

Trunk or Treat - October 26th

Secretary Stephens noted the flyers went out this week with Borough water bills. Some slight change this year registering trunks for the event instead of attendees and moving the event away from the parking lot. Cars participating will now be parked along the path edge down below. Change has been suggested due to concerns with latecomers driving in the lot when children are present. Council Liaison Oehler was concerned there would be less treats as some cars do not decorate. Chair Villagomez stated any car dispensing treats would be down at the path. Cars only transporting will stay in the parking lot. Chair Villagomez offered a brief description of the event for those new to the commission. Prizes are awarded for most original, cutest and scariest costumes and best trunk. Commission members were asked to arrive at 11:30 am to assist with set up.

Halloween Decorating - October 15th-31st

Chair Villagomez explained the event to new members. Members of the Commission drive through town and choose their favorites of the houses decorated for the season. The lists are compared at the next meeting of the commission and winners receive certificates and prizes. There was discussion regarding gift certificates as prizes.

Breakfast with Santa - December 13th

Chair Villagomez noted that Council Liaison Oehler had spoken with the Fire Department regarding using the hall and it was all set. Santa has been booked and the contract signed. Chair Villagomez stated the commission decorates on Friday evening for this Saturday event. Commission members need to arrive no later than 8am. Chair Villagomez will send attendees in by table for pics with Santa during the event. Council Liaison Oehler stated volunteers have agreed to cook.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Council Liaison Oehler stated that Hamburg Day was a fantastic success. Councilmembers were thrilled. Everything went very well. The band was great. Scavenger Hunt gave out over 30 prizes.

Footgolf was also a hit with all who attended. The children who played soccer were amazing on the course. Agreed it might help to move to a later time. Vice Chair Walton suggested perhaps a flexible start. That way more would feel free to attend.

Council Liaison Oehler also suggested the commission consider adding game nights to the calendar. She stated a Family Game Night and/or Seniors Game Night with snacks and water or coffee/tea would not cost much and is a fun night. Chair Villagomez liked the suggestion, especially for the winter.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Chairperson Sam Villagomez requested a motion to open the meeting to the public. Motion by Commission Member Fran Weiss, seconded by Vice Chair Art Walton to open to the public. All in favor. Upon hearing no comment from the public. Motion by Commission Member Fran Weiss, seconded by Vice Chair Art Walton to close to the public. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice-Chair Art Walton, seconded by Frances Weiss to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. All in favor.

Date approved 10/21/2025

Date released 10/22/2025

Submitted by:

Jean Stephens

Jean Stephens

Interim Secretary

Recreation Commission