HAMBURG RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2026

OPEN MEETING / FLAG SALUTE

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

Certification
Pursuant the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act" adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press January 14th, 2026 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, Fran Weiss and Art Walton
Also present:	Council Liaison Joyce Oehler
	Secretary Becky Westra
	Hamburg PTA members: Ashley Zuidema-Brancaccio, Kaylee Luchesi, Heather Parrish, Jessica Bond and Sarah Drake

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Commission Chair Villagomez requested a motion to open the meeting to the public. Member Weiss made a motion to open the meeting to the public, Vice Chair Walton seconded. All in favor. Ashley Zuidema-Brancaccio, PTA President, along with other PTA members and the Commission discussed setting up interactive activities under the pavilion for attendees prior to trunk or treating. Hamburg PTA offered to bring a backdrop for pictures along with a sound system. Chair Villagomez asked the PTA to help the Commission in their efforts for new members along with spreading the news about the Recreation Commission meetings. In turn, the PTA stated they meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Council Liasion Oehler asked for help with Breakfast with Santa. The Commission along with the PTA discussed other upcoming events and potential collaboration. The PTA informed the Commission they are hosting a Color Run at the Hamburg School, October 18th at 4pm. Member Weiss made a motion to close the meeting to the public, Vice Chair Walton seconded the motion. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2026 regular meeting made by Vice Chair Walton, seconded by member Weiss, all in favor.
Motion to approve the minutes of Jul 21, 2026 regular meeting made by Vice Chair Walton, seconded by member Weiss, all in favor.

FINANCE

The Commission requested a larger font on the report from the CFO. Secretary Westra stated approximately $1,000.00 was received from Hamburg day vendors. The Commission asked for

confirmation that Santa was booked for breakfast with Santa. Motion to approve treasurer's budget report made by Vice Chair Walton, seconded by Member Weiss, all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

Hamburg Day - August 23rd
The Commision discussed the event, noting the layout was great and should continue that way moving forward. Chair Villagomez stated the stage was moveable and not a permanent structure, allowing the Borough to avoid fees and permits. Chair Villagomez also discussed the idea of a ferris wheel in-lieu of the trackless train. He will run it by the Mayor prior as it could be a higher liability cost. Also discussed was the idea of using the baseball field for more of the amusements. Concerns were noted regarding the petting zoo. Pony rides were not provided and some nipping of animals. Lastly, the Commission noted less food vendors for 2027, potentially three or four and more variety. Next year's application should list: first come, first serve, the Borough reserves the right to refuse vendors, as well as what size is the food vendor set-up and what side are they serving on. Motion to approve Hamburg Day 2027 by Member Weiss, seconded by Vice Chair Walton, all in favor.

Foot Gold
Vice Chair Walton noted there were no sign ups yet and he would possibly postpone the event until November. He will work with travel soccer to get more involvement.

Halloween Decorating Contest - Month of October
This was discussed in public open discussion.

Trunk or Treat - October 25th
This was discussed in public open discussion.

Holiday Tree Lighting - Friday, December 4th
Secretary Westra is looking to see if the school can attend with choir, as well as reaching out to the police department to see if the Grinch is available.

Breakfast with Santa- Saturday, December 12th
Hamburg PTA is willing to help with the event as long as people don't have prior commitments.

Holiday/Christmas Decorating Contest - December 12-24th
The commission discussed prior years' contests.

COUNCIL LIASON

Council Liason Oehler stated there were too many food trucks, too many realtors on Hamburg Day. She was appreciative of all Council member Haig did though there was miscommunication with vendors leaving, it should have been communicated with Chair Villagomez. Council Liasion Oehler noted for 2027, entering and exiting of vendors should be discussed prior to the event. Additionally, walkie talkies should be given to designated persons longer than just set-up. Moving forward, motentially look to have fire police assist with parking.

CORRESPONDENCE
None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice Chair Walton, seconded by Member Weiss to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. All in favor.

Date approved 10/20/26

Date released 11/5/26

Submitted by:

Rebecca Weiss

Recreation Commission Secretary