

Franklin Borough: Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes for

January 15, 2026

This meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by the Chairperson, Mr. Babcock, who then led the assembly in the flag salute.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Mr. Fredrick Babcock – Chairperson (present)
Mr. James Affinito - Vice-Chairperson (present)
Mrs. Crystal Talmadge – Member (present)
Mrs. Christine Affinito – Member (present)
Mrs. Jennifer Torres – Member (present)
Ms. Zoe Heath - Member (present)
Mrs. Rachel Heath - Council Liaison (present)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- December 4, 2025
- Mrs. Talmadge made a motion to approve December 4, 2025 meeting minutes.
Mrs. Affinito second the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mr. Babcock, Mrs. Affinito, Mrs. Talmadge, Mr. Affinito, Ms. Z. Heath, Mrs. Torres

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS: Ms. R Heath

APPROVED

F. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION# 1:

Mr. Babcock will request a motion to open the meeting to the public, for any questions or comments regarding tonight's agenda items. **All comments should be directed to the Chairperson and kept to a 3-minute maximum.**

- Mr. Craig Drace addressed the committee introducing himself and the Iron Bells, an NJABL baseball league. Initially, Mr. Drace was interested in using the field at the pond to host games for the league. The field does not meet regulation requirements.

H. Committee Reports:

- Treasurer – 2026 Budget was submitted. Waiting for final approval

I. OLD BUSINESS:

- 2026 Budget – requested an increase in budget to support the new programs and increased participation.
- Lisa Wagoner Resignation
- New Supplies – Discussed new supplies received for 2026

J. NEW BUSINESS:

- Advanced Veterinary Clinic is requesting use of the pond for a butterfly release event.

K. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS:

Mr. Babcock will allow each member of the Committee to offer any miscellaneous comments which they may have at this time.

- Mayor Sowden addressed the committee complimenting the efforts and expressed the continued support from the Council. We discussed the need to renovate the concession stand.

- The 250yr celebration was discussed with the mayor. A committee will be formed to plan the celebration. Will follow-up with Council to participate in the event planning.
- Councilman Formica attended part of the meeting as well. We discussed the renovations for the concession stand. Recreation with work with Building and Grounds on next steps.
- Calendar of events – the committee will work on putting together a full year calendar of Recreation events
- Next Meeting: 02/05/2026

AJOURNMENT:

Mr. Babcock asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Affinito made the motion. Seconded by Mr. Affinito

All were in favor. *The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm