

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
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HILLSDALE, NJ 07
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**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF 8/4/2025**

Rec Director: Dan Conte

Attendance: John, Sara Greg, Ann

Sports Association – Nikesh Shah

Council – Clemente Osso, John Rucco

BA – Mike Ghassali

John called the meeting to order at 6:32

Pledge of allegiance

Minutes approved by Sara and Ann

BA Update

1. Community center is ahead of schedule and the developer will be donating a full kitchen, including appliances. Looking to be open March or April 2026. The town is still working on the car parking in the area. The recreation director is coming up with programs in which the community center can be utilized.
2. Memorial field is moving along nicely. Pivot turf was selected. They are expecting the work to begin in September and be done by next spring. A donor came through and donated a playground to be added to memorial. The playground will be ADA compliant. The donor will receive 3 different designs to choose from for the playground. The council was given permission to spend 5.8 million dollars.
3. Centennial field had some issues the sprinklers. These have since been fixed. The town has been helpful in keeping their dogs off of the field as requested.
4. Bandshell is set to be fixed. The town is waiting on the cost of updating the structure versus demolition. Sara comments on the aesthetic of the design presented. There can be other designs presented.
5. The bids for the nature trail came in less than expected.
6. By the end of next summer, the BA predicts we will have a new field, nature trail, community center and bandshell.

Fall Programming

The fall brochure is set to be sent on 8/15. It has been difficult to plan certain programs due to the lack of space in town right now.

Wrestling is looking to branch off from the recreation department and go out on their own. The town will take a small financial hit.

Summer Camp conclusion

Summer camp concluded on 8/1. The camp was well attended and well received by the community. The director of the camp wants to rename the field trip camp to Camp Buesser. This will be named after someone who passed away and meant a lot to the town.

Summer Concert

There were 3 concerts, and they all went well. There was the NJ concert band, Ladies of the 80's and Kickin Nash. There is about three thousand dollars left in the account to use for concerts next year.

Upcoming events

8/26 movie night, trying to get the new karate kid movie if not available will use the older version.

9/13 fall festival, still looking for vendors.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 by Sara and Ann