

# **TOWNSHIP OF MAPLE SHADE**

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-06**

### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MAPLE SHADE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING A RECREATION COMMITTEE AND DEFINING ITS PURPOSE, COMPOSITION, DUTIES, AND GOALS**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council of the Township of Maple Shade recognizes the importance of fostering community recreation opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a Recreation Committee will promote collaboration between residents, municipal departments, and local organizations to improve the quality, accessibility, and enjoyment of recreational facilities and programming within the Township;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Council of the Township of Maple Shade, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Chapter 4-41 (Advisory Board of Commerce) is repealed and replaced as follows:

§ Chapter 4-41 Recreation Committee

#### **SECTION 1. CREATION OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE**

There is hereby created a Recreation Committee in the Township of Maple Shade, which shall function as an advisory body to the Township Council, Recreation Director, and Department of Public Works with respect to recreation programming, facilities, and related improvements throughout the Township.

#### **SECTION 2. OVERSIGHT**

The Recreation Committee shall be overseen by the Township Recreation Director, who shall serve as the primary point of contact and facilitator for Committee operations. The Recreation Director shall ensure that the Committee's work aligns with Township policies and shall provide regular reports and recommendations to the Township Council regarding Committee activities, progress on goals, and proposed improvements.

#### **SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP**

##### **A. Composition**

The Recreation Committee shall consist of seven (7) volunteer members appointed by the Township Council. In appointing members, the Council shall give preference to candidates with the following backgrounds or affiliations:

1. A Maple Shade resident with an engineering background
2. A resident of Maple Shade aged 60 or older
3. A past president or executive board member of a local youth sports organization
4. A student living in Maple Shade in grade 9 through 12

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5. An individual who is not currently participating in any non-profit organization operating within the municipality.
6. Two additional residents demonstrating a strong interest in community recreation

### **B. Liaisons (Non-Voting Members)**

The following individuals shall serve as non-voting liaisons to the Committee:

1. The Township Recreation Director
2. A representative from the Department of Public Works, as designated by the Public Works Director
3. Two of the Township Council, with one being the Mayor or their designee

### **SECTION 4. TERMS OF OFFICE**

The initial terms of office shall be staggered as follows:

- One member shall serve a term of **one (1) year**
- One member shall serve a term of **three (3) years**
- Two members shall serve terms of **four (4) years**
- Three members shall serve terms of **five (5) years**

Thereafter, all appointments, with the exception of the student member, whose term shall be fixed for two (2) years, shall be made for a term of five (5) years, with vacancies filled for the remainder of the unexpired term.

### **SECTION 5. REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

A. An active member is defined as one who:

- Chairs at least one major recreational event annually, or
- Assists as a volunteer for at least three recreational events annually, and
- Attends at minimum four (4) regularly scheduled meetings in a given calendar year (January 1 to December 31)

B. Members who **miss three (3) or more meetings** in a calendar year without valid medical or emergency excuse may be subject to removal and replacement at the discretion of the Township Council.

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### SECTION 6. MEETINGS

The Recreation Committee shall meet at least **six (6) times per year**, on a **bi-monthly basis**, typically in **January, March, May, July, September, and November**. Additional meetings may be scheduled as necessary at the call of the Chairperson.

A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be selected annually by a majority vote of the Committee.

### SECTION 7. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Recreation Committee shall serve in an **advisory capacity** and shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Review and recommend improvements to Township sports fields, parks, playgrounds, and related recreational infrastructure
2. Work with the Township Recreation Director to identify and support new recreational programming for **youth, adults, and seniors**, including seasonal events and summer activities
3. Evaluate and communicate the needs of local nonprofit and sports organizations regarding recreational spaces and equipment
4. Assist in the preparation of a **Five-Year Recreation Facilities Plan** that outlines proposed upgrades

### SECTION 8. FUNDING AND SUPPORT INITIATIVES

The Recreation Committee shall assist the Township in identifying and pursuing funding opportunities including, but not limited to:

1. Community fundraising events
2. Grant applications to county, state, and federal agencies
3. Donations and sponsorships from private individuals, businesses, and foundations

All such activities shall be coordinated with and subject to approval by the Township Manager and/or Township Council.

### SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

