

Wallingford Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting

Wednesday, September 24th, 2025 5:30pm
6 Fairfield Blvd, Wallingford
Room 4 Conference Room

Meeting was called to order at 5:36pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

Commissioners in Attendance: Don Crouch, Lori Cooke-Marra, Lars Edeen.

Absent: Steve Rossacci.

Recreation Staff in Attendance: Director of Parks and Recreation Kenny Michaels and Recreation Superintendent Shawn Keogh

3. Public Comments (10 minutes total time)
None present

4. Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2025

A motion was made by Lars Edeen and seconded by Lori Cooke-Marra to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on May 14, 2025. Approved unanimously.

5. Election of Officers: Vice-Chairman

A motion was made by Lars Edeen and seconded by Lori Cooke-Marra to nominate Steve Rossacci as Vice Chairman. Approved unanimously.

6. Reports

a. Director – Kenny Michaels reviewed his report with the commission. Report is attached.

b. Project Reports

i. Community Pool Park – Discussed in Director's Report.

c. Chairman – Chairman Crouch thanked Jon Sullivan for his years of service on the commission. He mentioned the town is working on the Plan of Conservation and Development and hopes the inclusion of Parks and Recreation will help create some opportunities for grants in the future.

There are two meetings left in 2025, the schedule for 2026 meetings will have to be set at the final meeting this year.

7. Old Business - none

8. New Business

a. Discussion and possible action: Community Lake Little League Field naming – Little League has endorsed renaming the baseball field at Community Lake after Tim Keogh for his years of service to Wallingford Little League. Kenny is looking for support from the commission before sending a letter to the Mayor and town council. **A motion was made by Lars Edeen to support the naming of the baseball field at Community Lake after Tim Keogh. Seconded by Lori Cooke-Marra. Approved unanimously.**

9. Commission Around Town

a. Comments/Concerns – This is a new agenda item added by Chairman Crouch. This will allow commission members to discuss in meetings things they see around town that should be addressed. Lori Cooke-Marra brought up some invasive weeds in the grass at town soccer fields. Kenny said the new grass vendor is addressing the issues but it will be a long process to bring back the healthy grass.

10. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 6:10pm.

Next Meeting: November 12, 2025 @ 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Keogh
Recreation Superintendent
Wallingford Parks & Recreation

Recreation Commission Director's Report September 24, 2025

Programs/Events:

Summer 2025 (June 1-August 31)

Activities Canceled	8
Activities Ran	152
Total Activities	160
% Running	95%
Registrations	2,957

Projects/Facilities:

- Pragemann Park Basketball Court project went out to bid and has been awarded to Hinding Sport Courts \$160,625. **Project has been Completed.**
- Community Lake Sports Court bid opened on March 27th. Low bidder is Classic Turf who completed the Doolittle Basketball Courts. The project has not been awarded as of date. The plan is to meet with Classic Turf prior to award to discuss the project and the issues of bubbling that happened on the first painting of Doolittle Courts. This project will replace the (2) aging tennis courts with (2) new post tension concrete tennis courts and fencing, along with replacement of (1) basketball court into a post tension concrete basketball court. **Project has been Completed**
- Pragemann Park Dugouts were expanded and made wider on Fields 1 and 2. New concrete pads poured, new benches and fencing for the dugouts were also installed.
- Community Pool Bid Opened with Banton Construction again as the low bid at \$9.3 million. I anticipate this being on the Town Council Agenda for May 27th. **TOWN COUNCIL APPROVED BONDING FOR \$10.5 MILLION JUNE 10, 2025 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY POOL. THE PAPERWORK WILL BE SIGNED TODAY TO ACCEPT BANTON CONSTRUCTIONS BID ON THE PROJECT. DEMOLITION AND SITE WORK UNDERWAY**
 - Site work has been the majority of the work to begin. Silt fence has been installed around the perimeter as required. Concrete removed from the north side of the park to continue silt fence installation.
 - Site work including the removal and breakdown of the concrete on site
 - Abatement removal as required was completed last week in the Chemical Building (empty chemical containers/light fixtures) and in the Bath House (Lead sinks and lighting ballasts). All these items were pre-identified.
 - Demolition began this week on the Chemical/Pump Building
 - Over the next 2 weeks you will see the continuation of site demo, to include the removal of both buildings and debris, along with the milling of the existing asphalt in the pool.
 - Work was done to complete site requirements for the Wallingford Water and Sewer Division, running new water line to the street from

existing line. In completing this task, it gave Banton the Demolition Approval for the site.

- To date 18 tri axles of concrete have been removed
- Still awaiting on approval from CT Dept. of Health on the plans. Plans had to be reviewed again as the DOH has now merged pools into the Water and Sewer reviews for state projects. Previously, pools were a separate review with shorter turnaround time. With the change, review can take up to 120 days from time review begins (not time it is received). Banton Construction would like to pursue a Conditional Approval from the Town of Wallingford Building Department.
- Crack repair and filling was completed at Harrison Pickleball Court by our Part Time Mainers. This is a short term fix to get another year or two of the courts which at that point we budget to rebuild the courts in post tension concrete.
- SLR International was the lowest quote as the Architect to work on the Pat Wall Feasibility Plan. This Feasibility Plan is to redesign the external areas of the field and upgrade the fencing, backstop, dugouts, bull pens, provide accessibility to the field from the upper level, retaining wall seating in the hill behind home plate. Estimated cost of the project from the feasibility plan is \$856k.

Upcoming –

- Pragemann Park Pavilion Conversion into storage garage for Lacrosse and Football
- Dutton Park Conceptual Design
- Parks Master Plan