

Recreation Commission Director's Report November 12, 2025

Programs/Events:

- Halloween Parade with Public Celebrations was very successful with estimated 2,000 people attending the event on South Main St.
- Nine and A Chicken Scavenger hunt sponsored by Chick Fil A is Friday November 21st
- Holiday Stroll with WCI is Friday December 5th
- Seasons of Celebration, Visits with Santa and Tree Lighting with Public Celebrations is Saturday December 6th
- Weber and Gannon Youth Basketball Drafts and Team development beginning the week of November 10th. Currently 640 kids registered.

Projects/Facilities:

- Working with the Wallingford Health Department on the purchase and construction of a fitness court for Community Lake Park. Recent phone interview with the National Fitness Campaign awarded Wallingford a \$35k grant for the project. Wallingford Health Department to allocate \$185k of funding from the Opioid Settlement Funding to be appropriated for the equipment. Only 3 sites currently in CT (Plainville & Bridgeport)
- Working with Bee Mac Construction on the installation of new player bench pads at West Side Softball Field
- West Field Baseball and Pragemann Multi Purpose Field have been closed all fall as we begin the exercise of some field rest in the fall months to do aeration and drill seeding on some of our overused sports fields. This practice will continue next fall with locations to be determined.
- Community Pool Update:
 - Site work continuing with the removal and breakdown of the concrete on site
 - Both the Pump House and bath house have been demolished and removed
 - Still day to day removal of the existing on site concrete
 - Contractor doing the prep work to install the footing for the new building at the entrance of the park
 - 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). **Conditional approval provided by Banton Construction by The Wallingford Building Department**
 - Some concerns brought up in meeting by the town in regard to security cameras, as they were not part of the existing plan and may be beneficial for this new amenity. This will be researched.
- Estimated Cost for Conceptual Plan for site work and redesign of Dutton Park was sent to Sheila in Program Planning for potential grant opportunities to fund the design work of the project. Conceptual Design cost estimated at \$91k.
- 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.

- Park and Recreation Gym walls were all repadded with brand new safety padding adding to the upgrade to the gym with the floor being re-painted in March.

Upcoming –

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