

Wallingford Celebrates America 250

Special Meeting

Tuesday, February 4, 2026

Minutes

Roz Gallagher called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Those in attendance: Tara Knapp, Renee Miller, Bob Beaumont, Jerry Farrell, Jr. , Liz Landow, Alison Cady, and two guests.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.

Joe Doll gave an update on the Elks Club's Flag Day Ceremony which will be held Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. Bob Beaumont will contact Tom Caneschi regarding having the event on Public Television and also about audio equipment that will be needed.

Captain Colavolpe from the Wallingford Police Department reviewed the anticipated Police needs for every event and in particular the day of the Parade and Family Day. Bob Beaumont will look into the possibility of using and driveway of In Memoriam Cemetery for some of the floats and vehicles. Captain Colavolpe will issue a Press Release with street closure and parking information.

Liz Landow will ask Liz Davis at WCI to prepare a flyer for the local merchants with the events of each day, time, locations, etc. and to let the merchants know Simpson Court will be closed the day of the Parade and Block Dance. Restaurants will be encouraged to have special drinks, sandwiches, etc. to celebrate America 250.

The Block Dance was also discussed. It will take place from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Simpson Court and North Main Street to Church Street will be closed for the Block Dance.

A discussion took place regarding closing South Main Street during the Block Dance hours for a car show.

Liz Landow will contact Plaza Service for "monster trucks" to be available Family Day for the kids to look at, climb, etc. Roz will contact Colin Benard and Fire Chief Buck to see a military truck and fire truck respectively could be present that day.

Bob reported that to date we have collected \$32,430.00 in sponsorships, merchandises sales, etc. Our expenses to date have been \$8204.07 leaving an available balance of \$24,225.93. Bob has requested appropriation of \$10,460.00 from the Town Council at the next meeting.

Liz reported she did an inventory of our available merchandise and will be ordering more.

Tara Reported she will update our tri fold brochure, the Face Book Page with Kyle Schwartz, and other social media.

A discussion took place as to where larger signs could be erected advertising the weekend. Sites include the corner of Main Street and Route 68 in Yalesville and the former Yalesville Library property. A bookmark was suggested with a schedule of events for local restaurants, elementary schools, etc.

Bob Beaumont mentioned there will be a reading of the Declaration of Independence with a ringing of the bells on July 4, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. at the Wallingford Historic House.

Alison reported that the Wallingford Art Council is planning the Art Show for Friday and Sunday in the rotunda of the Humanities Building at Choate Rosemary Hall.

Roz and Liz will meet with Tarn Granucci to see if an article can be placed in the Wallingford Magazine with detailed information about the weekend events.

Liz reported that Porch Fest has 7 bands including an entry from Steve Lazarus and the Ukelele Club.

Roz will check with Shawn Keogh about ordering Port O Lets for all events through the Parks and Recreation contract.

The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at Le Jardin.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Roz Gallagher