

**Wallingford Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 11, 2026 @ 5:30pm**  
**6 Fairfield Blvd, Wallingford**  
**Room 3**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Lori Cooke-Marra (by phone), Lars Edeen, Steve Rossacci, Dave Anderson

**Absent:** Don Crouch

**Recreation Staff in Attendance:** Director - Kenny Michaels and Superintendent – Shawn Keogh

3. Public Comments (10 minutes total time)

- Bill Comerford (resident) Bill informed the Commission that he met with Erin O'Hare to discuss the possibility of ice skating at Doolittle Park. He stated that she said it would need to be initiated by Parks & Recreation Department. He is concerned about grant opportunities for Wallingford, mentioning that other town departments' current grants are not compliant with the state. He restated his concerns about the installation of the post tension concrete courts at the parks. He suggested reinstating the non-profit fees for the use of town facilities and parks. He has concerns about the lack of snow plowing at the parks. Lastly, he has concerns regarding the town's farmland leases and the type of use permitted on these properties. Kenny Michaels stated that the Conservation Commission handles the farmland leases.

4. Approval of Minutes: December 10, 2025

**A motion was made by Lars Edeen and seconded by Dave Anderson to approve the December 10, 2025 minutes. Unanimously Approved.**

5. Presentation: Scott Gray, Trails Working Group

Scott reviewed the Summary of Accomplishments for 2025 and the December 2025 reports (*attached*). Scott informed the commission that they will be hosting another trail tour event for National Trails Day 2026 at Tyler Mill in June. There was a brief discussion on exploring options for public interfacing and gathering trails users' feedback. Scott Gray suggested adding a survey QR code to the trail kiosk boards. Kenny Michaels and Steve Rossacci will look into this.

6. Reports

a. Director – Kenny Michaels reviewed his report with the commission. (*attached*)  
- Commissioners had a brief discussion regarding the structure and uniformity regarding the use of field banners for Sponsorship/Advertising for Volunteer Run Leagues.

b. Project Reports

i. Community Pool Park – updates included in the Director's report.

c. Chairman – none

7. Old Business

a. Discussion: Park/Facility Rental Fees –The Commission continued to discuss which nonprofits use the facilities, do they charge their participants for activities/events being held at town facilities, what costs are incurred from the town for these rentals, what are the typical rental fees. It was suggested that Kenny Michaels and Steve Rossacci meet with the Ulbrich Boys & Girls Club regarding their Holiday Basketball Tournament. Commissioners also discussed how the funds from these rentals would be used towards

building/park maintenance, upgrades, and projects. Collected fees would minimize requests for the use of the town's General Funds.

b. Discussion: Feasibility for future skating at Doolittle Park –The commission discussed possible options for an ice rink. Kenny Michaels reviewed the current skating program at Choate. There are many variables when considering an outdoor skating rink including but not limited to weather, maintenance and liability. Commission agrees that the current skate program is sufficient and a temporary rink would not be a good use of funding.

c. Discussion: Community Lake baseball field – Lars Edeen would like to see some upgrades made to the baseball field before the Tim Keogh Field Dedication event this spring.

## 8. New Business

a. DISC golf course – Kenny Michaels informed the commission of changes being made to the course by Jason Michael and a group of course users without having permission. Signs and additional tee boxes were added to the course. There was a brief discussion on the process of anyone making improvements to town property.

b. Plowing of parking lots after snowstorms – There was a discussion regarding plowing more lots at the parks during the winter. Currently the town focuses on plowing Doolittle Park. Multiple parks have viable winter use including Harrison Park, Upper Vietnam Park, the Dog Park and the Linear Trail. Plowing additional parking lots at town parks would increase outdoor activity for residents during the winter.

c. Bow hunting at Tyler Mill – Conservation Commissioner Bruce Conroy proposed bow/deer hunting on open space properties at the January 2026 Conservation Commission meeting. Kenny Michaels stated that he met with Mayor Cervoni, Risk Manager-Kurt Treiber, Town Corporation Counsel-Janis Small and Police Chief Ventura to discuss. Kenny Michaels stated that small game hunting is currently permitted at Tyler Mill. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of adding bow/deer hunting to the open space properties. **Lori Cooke-Marra made a motion to send a letter of recommendation to Mayor Cervoni and the Conservation Commission stating that the Parks & Recreation Commission is not in favor of bow hunting on any open space property in Wallingford. Motion was seconded by Dave Anderson. Motion was unanimously approved.**

*Lori Cooke-Marra left the meeting at approximately 6:30pm*

## 9. Commission Around Town

### a. Comments/Concerns

- Steve Rossacci asked if there is any possibility of moving Weber/Gannon basketball practices to another location than the school gymnasiums on holidays that the schools are closed. Kenny Michaels stated that due to limited gym space throughout town this is not feasible.

10. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 6:41pm. **Motion to adjourn made by Lars Edeen, seconded by Dave Anderson. Unanimously approved.**

Next Meeting: May 13, 2026 @ 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Hoppes

Parks & Recreation Commission Secretary