

Wallingford Celebrates America's 250th

Minutes - Special Meeting

April 28, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Those in attendance were Jerry Farrell, Jr., Alison Cady, Renee Miller, Liz Landow, Bob Devaney, Bob Beaumont, Kenny Michaels, Tara Knapp, and Roz Gallagher

The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Bob Beaumont gave a financial update. The donation from One Source has been received.

Bob Beaumont gave a brief overview of Powder House Day on April 25, 2026. Bob Beaumont and Bob Devaney gave an update on the installation of the Liberty Tree at the Center Street Cemetery this past week. Both events were very successful.

Roz reported that a letter to Council Chairman Vincent Testa has been submitted requesting use of the Parade Grounds, Simpson Court, North and South Main Streets. We anticipate it being on the Town Council Consent Agenda the first meeting in May.

Roz and Liz reported that after meeting with Steve Palermo from Public Works the Car Show will be held on North Main Street and the Block Dance on South Main Street. This change is due to electric power services being better on South Main Street for the Show Mobile.

Renee gave an update on the Parade. She currently has 62 units and organizations signed up and anticipates several more. Her sub committee is reviewing applications and insurance requirements. Renee will have a meeting of all volunteers and organization heads prior to the Parade to disseminate information for assembly, parking, marching, etc. Shuttles were discussed for transportation from the Choate campus and uptown parking areas to Dutton Park. Alison will check on the Choate shuttles and Renee will check with the Senior Center. It was agreed we will have a final meeting with Captain Colavolpe from the Wallingford Police Department before the Parade. Liz Landow, Renee, and Roz will meet with John Rozz to walk the route and discuss the possibility and cost of music being placed at intermittent stations along the route to supplement the music.

Liz and Roz reported we will begin selling merchandise at the Garden Market Saturday, May 9, 2026. We will have a pop up tent and tables for the merchandise. Liz will submit the application for participation to the Garden Market. Venmo or cash will be used for payment. We currently have volunteers for May 9, 16, and 23. we are in need of volunteers for May 30, June 6, and 13.

Roz and Liz mentioned they had the opportunity to speak with Captain Colavolpe about stenciling our logo on the street. Captain Colavolpe will get back to us.

Liz reported that Wallingford Center Inc. will be getting the flyers out for Shop, Sip, and Stroll by mid May and that Liz Davis is in contact with Chris Trautnau about the Car Show.

Jerry and Alison gave an update on the Witness Stone Project. They are working on a QR code for a poster to be placed at each location so interested individuals would be able to get detailed information about each stop.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding Family Movie Night. Licensing fees will be approximately \$1500.00 in addition to the cost of the event. It was suggested to have National Treasure as the movie. Tara will continue to oversee this event.

Kenny stated that the inside back cover of the Wallingford Parks and Recreation brochure will feature our celebration.

Roz suggested that we know the number of signs that are needed for each event and what the information to be printed on each sign be brought to the next meeting so we can get the signs into production. Roz will check with Colin Benard about the large 4' x 4' signs for Yalesville and request permission to use the corner of Route 68 and Main Street for one of the signs. The other sign will go in front of the former Yalesville Library.

Renee reminded everyone that we are in need of a lot of volunteers. Names and contact information of volunteers should be brought to the next meeting.

The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at Le Jardin.

Without any other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Roz Ballaguer