

East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2025

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EAST LYME, CT

2025 APR 22 P 12:18

Robert Tukey
TOWN CLERK

Present: Robert Tukey
Sue Kumro
Alicia Brothers
Wick Haylon
Todd Donovan
David Castro

Absent: Ben Armstrong

Also Present: Jerry Lokken, Director of Parks and Recreation
Candice Carlson, Ex Officio

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Public Delegations. Ms. Carlson reported the Short-Term Rental Commission has been formed.
3. Approval of Minutes of February 13, 2025.

MOTION (1): Ms. Brothers moved to approve the February 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Kumro. Mr. Castro abstained. (5-0-1) Motion carried.

4. Director's Report.
 - a. Operations. The Public Hearing on the budget will be held on April 28. The Annual Town Meeting will be held on May 12 and the Referendum will be held on May 22.
 - b. CIP and state bonding requests. Mr. Lokken reported that the Town was applying for state bonding for two large projects: 1) Peretz Park restroom/garage and 2) Renovation of the Community Center.
 - c. Vets Field Renovation Update. Mr. Lokken informed the Commission that Vets Field construction is complete and we're waiting for the sod to knit in before beginning to use the fields. The High School had a few games cancelled at Bridebrook. Bridebrook Baseball field is in the budget request for next year to be renovated. Lacrosse is being played on Founders Field that is being renamed in recognition of three individuals. He showed the Commission a proposed sign prepared by Signcraft. Mr. Haylan stated these three individuals were involved in sports for 25 years without having a youngster in the program.
5. Ex-officio Report. See delegations.

6. Communications. There were no new communications.

7. Unfinished Business.

a. Discussion of Proposed Dog Park Location. The Dog Park Subcommittee, the Darrow Pond Subcommittee, Mr. Lokken and members of this Commission met on March 22, 2025 to visit the following sites to consider a Dog Park: 12 Roxbury Road, property on Roxbury Road given to the town to be used for recreational purposes and Darrow Pond. The Dog Park Committee has agreed to raise funds for a Dog Park. Ms. Kumro wants to speak to the Dog Park Committee to determine how they feel about each site.

8. Committee Reports.

a. Darrow Pond (Todd). Mr. Donovan will discuss a Dog Park at Darrow Pond with the Subcommittee.

b. Dog Park (Sue). See discussion above.

9. New Business.

a. Discussion of Vision, Mission and Core values. Mr. Lokken gave Commission members a draft identity document for discussion at the next Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

b. Long Term Planning Discussion. Mr. Lokken felt the following potential capital projects are needed in 2026: 1. Bridebrook Restroom/Garage planning \$75,000; Bridebrook Baseball Field Renovation \$80,000 and McCook Sea Wall \$40,000. He requested that the Commission participate in establishing priorities for the next 5-10 years on other capital projects.

MOTION (2): Mr. Haylan moved to adjourn the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Meeting at 8 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Brothers. (6-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary