

FALLS VILLAGE RECREATION COMMISSION
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 10th, 2026 – 6:30pm

In Person: Falls village Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT 06031

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Catherine Wales called the Meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

2. **Approval of minutes from**

Dan Carr made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 12th 2026 meeting. Matt Gallagher seconded the motion. Unanimous.

3. **Town Farm**

a. **October Events**

- By consensus, the commission agreed on **“Autumn at the Town Farm”** as the official event name.
- Extensive discussion took place regarding the October 17 Town Farm event, including site layout, vendors, activities, traffic flow, parking, accessibility, hayrides, food, music and community participation.
- **Hayride**: Expanding the hayride route through additional areas of the Town Farm, subject to ground conditions and coordination with Tim/Chris Kinsella
- **Programming discussed/being coordinated**: Live music, hayrides, Wiffle ball, Frisbee, Gaga pit, fly fishing/lure activities, magic performance, face painting, pumpkin activities, scarecrow contest, food vendors, local farm products, fire department participation, s'mores, popcorn, ice cream, mushrooms/botanicals, family portraits, vintage vehicles/tractors and other local/community demonstrations.
- **Scarecrow Contest**: The Commission agreed by consensus to include a **scarecrow contest**, with participants bringing completed scarecrows to the event. Discussion included community voting and a locally sourced prize/basket.
- **Event Site/Wayfinding**: The Commission discussed using bunting, signage, directional markers and a printed/digital site map to guide visitors through the larger Town Farm property and increase awareness of areas beyond the pool.
- **Parking/Accessibility**: Discussion included overflow parking, directional signage, and arranging an **ATV/side-by-side or similar vehicle** to assist visitors who may have difficulty walking from parking areas.
- **Constables/Traffic**: It was noted that constable support would be requested through the First Selectman for traffic management.
- **Vendor Setup**: Preliminary planning established approximately **11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. for vendor setup**, with participants expected to provide their own setup/materials and comply with applicable requirements.
- **Merchandise**: The Commission discussed beginning with **FVRC hats** rather than a larger merchandise assortment. The intention is that proceeds support Recreation/Town Farm programming.
- **Donations**: Discussion supported accepting donations at the event, with clear communication that funds would support future Town Farm/Recreation improvements
- **October Event Budget**: Dan Gallagher made a motion to authorize **up to \$5,000 for Autumn at the Town Farm expenses**, with any expenditure above that amount requiring further Commission approval. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Rhoades and carried unanimously. Expenses discussed within that authorization included but not limited to; the bouncy house, hayride, musicians, bunting/decorations, signage/posters, postage, popcorn supplies, Wiffle balls, refreshments, hats/merchandise, entrance decoration and other event-related needs.

b. **Developments and updates**

- It was noted that Mark Gozonsky is now a member of the Commission as of September 1st - till November 30th 2027
- **AFV Funding Update:** The Commission reviewed documentation showing approximately **\$3,734 in All Falls Village-supported expenditures to date**, which reduced the amount FVRC had needed to spend directly on summer programming.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:35pm

Next regular meeting:

Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 - 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted

Catherine Wales

Catherine Wales
Falls Village Recreation Commission