

Durham Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.

Durham Community Center - Room One

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87480180094?pwd=YwkyKgAEu8dXJfVdAQybXaDbllryCw.1>

Passcode: 814512

Call to Order/Roll Call: 7:03 p.m.

Present: Brian MacDuff, Christopher Balay, Jane Eddleston, Janet Morganti, Kathy Marzano, Rita Van Steenberg, Brian Medeiros-Durham Recreation director

Absent: Mallory Castro, Pam Carey, Kim Johansen, Kim Brackett, Stepanie Fisher

Pledge of Allegiance led by Janet M.

Seating of Alternates: Brian MacDuff seated for Kim Johansen; Kathy Marzano seated for Mallory Castro

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Christopher Balay, second by Kathy Marzano to approve the agenda with the edit of swapping the order of items 8 and 9. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval of March Minutes: Motion by Christopher Balay, second by Kathy Marzano. All in favor. Motion passed.

Easter Egg Hunt: Janet Morganti reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was successful. The Committee discussed adding clearer signage next year for age groups, prizes, and event flow. Brian Medeiros reported that more than 200 families attended despite the cold weather. Volunteers, including students and community members, were a major help. The Committee noted the Easter Bunny costume was a positive addition and discussed the importance of planning volunteer coverage in advance for future events.

Picnic Tables: Janet Morganti reported that six picnic tables for Allyn Brook were provided by Facilities Maintenance/Public Works and still need to be stained. Brian Medeiros reported that two ADA-accessible tables are still being pursued. The Committee also discussed relocating one or two existing tables to the Community Center for additional outdoor seating. Additional park and pavilion improvements, including possible lighting work near the pickleball courts, were also noted.

Fun Run Update: Henry Bugai and Sandi Dallas provided an update on the Summer Fun Run. The program is expected to run Tuesday evenings beginning after July 4 and continuing until the Tuesday before school starts, from 6:00 to approximately 7:15 p.m. Registration and waivers will be handled through RecDesk. The first 100 registrants will likely receive T-shirts. The program will be held rain or shine except in extreme weather. Some Recreation Committee support may be needed during the first few weeks.

Park Equipment Inspection: Brian Medeiros reported on a recent playground inspection conducted with Jeff Joseph, a risk management consultant at CIRMA. The inspection identified several minor safety and maintenance improvements, including the need for additional protective surfacing, clearer age-range signage, and possible shade coverage over slides. A damaged swing and a slide affected by a fallen tree limb at Allyn Brook will also need attention. The replacement slide would need to be sourced through

Miracle, a park equipment vendor. A formal report with photographs and recommendations based upon the CSPC Public Playground Safety Handbook is expected within 10-14 days.

Summer Concert Series: Brian Medeiros reported that the Summer Concert Series will begin in late June and run through mid-August. Eight bands are currently lined up, with one date still open. Food trucks are expected to return.

Summer Activities / Camp: Brian Medeiros reported strong registration for summer camp, with more than 120 participants already signed up. Camp will run June 22-July 9 and July 20-August 6. Additional summer programming is also being planned, including basketball, STEM activities, art, pastry nights, and other recreation offerings. Camp pricing has been set at \$140 per session, with discounted family pricing for multiple children. Janet Morganti noted that attendance and registration are closely monitored.

Adopt-A-Road / Community Cleanup: Brian Medeiros reported that Recreation will co-sponsor a cleanup event with the Coginchaug Eco Club, Sustainable Durham, and other community groups from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Allyn Brook. Volunteer sign-up planning is underway. Janet Morganti noted that Sustainable Durham will also include recycling information.

Farmers' Market: Janet Morganti reported that the Agriculture Committee will not be taking over the Farmers Market. She suggested that the Board of Selectmen issue a public notice seeking another group or individual to take it on. Brian Medeiros noted that while the Winter Market was successful, the Summer Market did not gain traction.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment: Motion by Christopher Balay, second by Kathy Marzano. Motion passed. 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. MacDuff