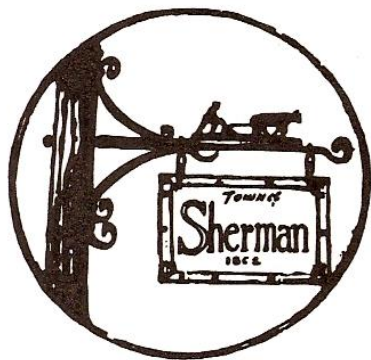




SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Minutes of Regular Meeting October 6, 2025

Present:

Fran Frattini – Chairman
Rachel Booth
T.J. Fazzone
Bill Teman (via phone)
John Wrenn – Director
JodiAnn Eure – Program Coordinator
Don Lowe – First Selectman

Absent:

Kris Fazzone
Stephen Frattini
Stan Greenbaum

Guests: There were no guests.

Call to order:

Chairman Fran Frattini called the October 6, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:16pm.

Pavilion and Facilities Applications:

1. New Fairfield Youth Field Hockey requested the use of Volunteer Park for their games, with all the game dates listed on the application. John Wrenn noted that there are 12 Sherman girls and 2 Sherman coaches included in the group. There was a discussion.

T.J. Fazzone made a motion to approve the application by the New Fairfield Youth Field Hockey group to use the field at Volunteer Park for their games on the dates listed on their application. Rachel Booth seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

2. Glen McCready requested the use of the Town Park parking lot to park 2 cars for the day on October 18, 2025. Mr. McCready is with a New Milford Senior Citizens Canoe Group who wish to canoe from Sherman to New Milford.

Rachel Booth made a motion to approve the application by Glen McCready and the New Milford Senior Citizens group to park 2 cars in the Town Park parking lot on October 18, 2025 during their canoe outing. T.J. Fazzone seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Minutes from September 8, 2025 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission as written was made by T.J. Fazzone, seconded by Fran Frattini and was voted with all in favor. Minutes were accepted as written.

Eagle Scout Project Presentation/Updates:

There were no new Eagle Scout projects to consider.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Correspondence:

1. John Wrenn noted that the Commission had received a thank you note from Marie Hatcher for the donation in Matthew Hatcher's memory to Matthew's Hearts of Hope. It was noted that both Matthew and his two brothers have worked for Park and Recreation.

2. An email was sent to Town Clerk, Carol Havens and Sherman Park and Recreation from Max C. Ramsey with an FOI request to inspect and possibly get copies of materials related to the boat slip registration and lottery for 2024, 2025 and 2026. The request included; applications; boat registrations; all names on the boat dock lottery list; all chosen names and the order of the choosing; the handwritten list created at the lottery; the process for signing up for a boat dock; the process for assigning a boat to a certain slip; and information including name and boat registration number of the individual that was assigned slip number C-12 for the 2025 season. There was also a request to waive any fees that might be incurred while gathering this information.

There was a discussion. Mr. Wrenn will acknowledge receipt of the request within the required 4 days. It was noted that FOI request needs to be fulfilled within a reasonable period of time. Mr. Wrenn and Don Lowe will work with the FOI Commission regarding this request. It was noted that Mr. Ramsey is fifth on the waiting list for the 2026 season. It was further noted that in a typical year between 3 and 5 people get off the wait list and get a boat slip.

Program Coordinator Report:**Program Coordinator Report:**

Fran Frattini suggested having a pumpkin display at one of the Parks for Halloween or having a scarecrow decorating contest among the businesses and/or residents in the center. Discussion followed noting that more thought and research was needed but the consensus was that it was a very good idea and could likely be organized for next fall.

JodiAnn Eure shared her report which included:

Current programs:

1. Tiny Tots Soccer has 40 participants and the weather has been terrific for them.
2. Pilates had a small group of just 2 participants but will have a new round of classes starting in November.
3. Crochet program had to be canceled due to scheduling conflicts with other school activities. It will be rescheduled to a different day when there are not so many school activities.
4. MTWMC (Music Time With Miss Cheryl) "Lil Music Makers" program was maxed out in both the 9:30 and 10:30 classes.

Upcoming programs:

1. Yoga and Meditation will be held on a three-week trial basis in November and December. The instructor is Jill Rooney and the three classes are scheduled to be held on Tuesday evenings, 7:00 – 8:00 in Charter Hall, pending approval for the space. The fee will be \$45.00 for the three classes.
2. One-day Cooking Camps will be held on Monday, December 29 and Tuesday, December 30, 2025. Camps will each be from 10:00am -1:00pm in Charter Hall and will feature individual recipes. Children may sign up for one or both sessions, with no repeated recipes.
3. The Holiday Lights committee had requested prize money for program's top three winners in the house decorating contest. There was a discussion, including dollar amounts for the prizes and possible gift cards from local businesses versus cash. Thoughts were a gift card to a local restaurant for the winner and gift cards for Home Depot/Loews for the runners up.

T.J. Fazzone made a motion to support the Commission on the Arts' Festival of Lights and sponsor up to \$300.00 in gift cards to be allocated among the top three winners of the house decorating contest. Bill Teman seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Director's Report:

John Wrenn reported the following:

- a. John Wrenn shared the checking account information with the Commission.
- b. Mr. Wrenn noted that the Town crew had done a nice job lining the field at Veterans Field for the school's use as well as the small soccer fields at Colonial for Tiny Tots soccer program. In addition, it was noted that the roof on the gazebo had been completed and the roof on the Town Park beach office will be done soon.
- c. The swim floats are out of the water and placed in the parking lot. Mr. Wrenn noted that one float needed to be scraped and painted but the other two were in good shape.
- d. The final summer programs' report will be coming soon.
- e. The Early Bird program is ongoing at the school. Mr. Wrenn was contacted about Park and Recreation offering an Early Bird program at the Congregational Church where the school's preschool program is being held this year. Some teachers may need it regularly. It was noted that the program would need about 12 children total over the course of a week to make the program break even. There was a discussion. The consensus was that it would be a valuable service for the Commission to offer and Mr. Wrenn will work out all the details.

Rachel Booth made a motion to approve an Early Bird program for preschoolers at the Congregational Church. T.J. Fazzone seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

- f. The Early Bird program at the school only ran for 3 days so far this school year.
- g. ASP is doing fine, with attendance fluctuating from day to day, one day having one child while another had 9 children.
- h. The Tiny Tots program had great weather last Saturday and attendance near 40.
- i. The boat slip lottery was held this past Saturday with all the slots filled and 6 on the waiting list. Mr. Wrenn noted that an additional 4 more applications were brought to him the day of the lottery. Since they were late, they could not be in the lottery but they will all be added to the waiting list in the order in which their application was received.

j. Mr. Wrenn had visited the Old Town Hall to measure the rooms for the Park and Recreation office when the new Senior Center is built. He determined there would be enough room for an office, ample storage and a good-sized space for various programs, classes and even the Commission meetings. In addition, a small reception area by the side door would be perfect for beach pass distribution.

k. Mr. Wrenn had received an email from JodiAnn Eure requesting reimbursement for \$119.99 for the Canva computer program she uses to do the flyers for Park and Recreation programs.

T.J. Fazzone made a motion to approve the reimbursement of \$119.99 to JodiAnn Eure for Canva program she uses to make flyers for the Commission's programs. Rachel Booth seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

l. John Wrenn requested reimbursement of \$347.76 for 3 shelving units he needed to purchase when moving some of the items from his school office to the beach cottage for storage.

Rachel Booth made a motion to approve the reimbursement of \$347.76 to John Wrenn for 3 storage units needed for office items put in storage at the beach cottage. Bill Teman seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

m. Mr. Wrenn detailed an estimate he had gotten of \$20,000.00 for security cameras at the Town Park. Details included suggested positions of the cameras that would show the beach, playground, pavilion bathrooms, boat launch and kayak area. There was a discussion, including the need for Wi-Fi at the beach as well as an annual maintenance fee which was not part of the estimate. No action was taken regarding the security cameras at this time.

n. Mr. Wrenn noted that he was advised that the desktop computer in his office will be obsolete soon. There was a discussion. Mr. Wrenn will work with Don Lowe, look into prices and styles and get a new computer for the Park and Recreation office.

o. A new pickleball instructor would like to give lessons since the former instructor has left for Arizona.

p. ASP has no half days for this school year. On half days all the classrooms are used for professional development and conferences. ASP will not be available on half days at school as it had been in the past.

Facilities Reports/Maintenance and Repairs:

a. There was no update for boat docks from First Light. It was noted that the plans for the boat dock project on the website might not be the final plans submitted to First Light. Don Lowe will take care of getting the final plans on the website.

b. The update on the Scout House renovations included a note that the exterior was completed and the interior should be done by the end of the month, perhaps even in two weeks.

c. Mr. Wrenn noted that all fields and facilities looked good.

Old Business/New Business:

a. Fran Frattini asked the Commission to start thinking about the 2026/2027 budget as it will soon be time to start working on it.

b. There had been a donation of a park bench at Volunteer Park by the pond in memory of Anne Bomford with the inscription reading "Anne Bomford 1945-2024 from her 4-legged friends". The bench had been previously approved by the Commission.

c. Kris Fazzone phoned in at 8:20pm to request that the bathrooms at Park and Recreation facilities be cleaned better. Mr. Fazzone noted that he had witnessed the need for thorough sweeping, supply replenishment and better overall cleaning. He suggested that a new cleaning person was in order. There was a discussion, including the need for the bathrooms to be checked 2- 4 times per week since there is increased use, partially due to the school using Veterans Field for gym classes. John Wrenn and Don Lowe will work together toward a solution.

Fran Frattini noted that the November Commission meeting will be held on the first Monday of the month, November 3, 2025, due to a scheduling conflict. Mrs. Frattini further noted that elections are scheduled for the November meeting and also that she will have the 2026 Commission meeting schedule ready for that meeting.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Rachel Booth made a motion to adjourn the October 6, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

T.J. Fazzone
Park and Recreation Secretary

Mary Jo Dix
Recording Secretary

The next Park and Recreation Commission regular meeting is scheduled on November 03, 2025

**These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved.
at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission**