



SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Minutes of Regular Meeting May 11, 2026

Present:

Fran Frattini – Chairman
Patrick Dillet
Kris Fazzino
T.J. Fazzino
Stan Greenbaum (arrived 7:48pm)
John Wrenn – Director
JodiAnn Eure – Program Coordinator
Don Lowe – First Selectman

Absent:

Bill Teman
Stephen Frattini

Guests: James Parker (Scouts' Troop 48), Rich Parente, The Daily Market
Addy Yagid (Sherman School Student Council President)

Call to order:

Chairman Fran Frattini called the May 11, Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:15pm.

Pavilion and Facilities Applications:

1. James Parker requested use of the pavilion on Monday, June 15, 2026 for Sherman's Boy Scout Troop 48 and Girls Troop 179 of New Fairfield for their End of Year Ceremony and possibly a BFA lifeguard training. It was noted that Sherman girls are members of Troop 179. There was a discussion.

T.J. Fazzino made a motion to approve the use of the Town Park pavilion by Scout Troops 48 and 179 for the 3:00pm – 8:00pm time slot on Monday, June 15, 2026 for their End of Year Ceremony and BSA lifeguard training and to waive the fee. Kris Fazzino seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

2. Addy Yagid, Student Council President for the Sherman School, requested use of the Veterans' Field parking lot for 2 food trucks on June 1, 2026 for students and staff to get lunch. Ms. Yagid noted that this has been a challenging school year during construction and everyone

had to be very flexible. This was the motivation for planning this special event. The trucks will each need 35ft of unobstructed space. There was a discussion, including timing of event with set-up and clean-up time included and managing traffic at dismissal time by coordinating with the school.

T.J. Fazzone made a motion to approve the application for use of the Veterans' Field parking lot by the Sherman School Student Council for 2 food trucks on Monday June 1, 2026 from noon to 3:00pm. T.J. Fazzone seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

3. Rich Parente from the Sherman Daily Market noted that there had been a miscommunication with John Wrenn about pavilion use dates for the market's planned Lobster Fests at the Town Park on May 30, June 27 and July 18, 2026. There was a discussion, including how the miscommunication transpired, the need for a formal application for use of the facility and a review of the excerpt of the Rules and Regulations for Commission Supervised Property pertaining to commercial use. Fran Frattini noted that commercial use of the Town Park was prohibited unless the proceeds will be for the benefit of a local non-profit organization such as Sherman Cares, Animal welfare etc.

Also discussed were insurance, health department involvement, music, possible beneficiaries of the event and use of the pavilion. Mr. Parente will provide insurance form to Park and Recreation, is dealing with Health Department and music himself, and will inform Commission of which organization/organizations will be the beneficiary of this event. Cooking will be done outside the pavilion where the grill is and service of buffet will be inside pavilion. It was noted that the posters that have already been advertised for this event say "BYOB" and that this is viewed as meaning "bring your own beverage". It was also noted that the park does not have a maximum attendance; there will be some seating inside pavilion and lawn will be available. It was also noted that if a conflict existed with reservations for any of these dates, John Wrenn and Mr. Parente will work to resolve it.

T.J. Fazzone made a motion to approve the application by Rich Parente for use of the Town Park pavilion for 3 Lobster Fest events on May 30, 2026, June 27, 2026 and July 18, 2026, each of these three days from 3:00pm to 8:00pm. with the beneficiary of the proceeds of the event to be determined prior to the event. Patrick Dillet seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Mr. Parente thanked the Commission and left the meeting.

There was discussion about the possibility of changing the ordinance to reflect another way to allow commercial entities to use the parks while keeping the Park and Recreation Commission in control of its use with the application process intact. Liability issues surrounding such a change were discussed. Having bids for a food service vendor at the pavilion was discussed. It was noted that this could potentially limit use of the pavilion by residents. The history of use of Town Park by an ice cream truck was discussed, included the limited amount of time the truck could be at the park. Also discussed was the possibility of building another pavilion at Colonial Field.

Don Lowe noted that any proposed change to a Town ordinance needs to be presented to the BOS for a vote at a Town Meeting. There was further discussion, including the review of the section of the ordinance that refers to parameters for a food vendors to operate at a Town facility.

T.J. Fazzone made a motion for the Commission to review the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Rules and Regulations for Commission Supervised Property document dated October 4, 1984 Section A # 13 related to licensed refreshment vendors and to discuss revisions at the June 8, 2026 Commission meeting. Patrick Dillet seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Minutes from April 13, 2026 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2026 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission meeting as written was made by T.J. Fazzone, seconded by Patrick Dillet and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Eagle Scout Project Presentation/Updates:

James Parker noted that there are 4-6 potential Eagle Scout projects that may be presented to the Commission in the near future.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Correspondence:

Kris Fazzone noted that he had received a request for more clay for the pitcher's mound on the softball field. There is one game left in this season and Mr. Fazzone suggested the Commission keep this request in mind for next year.

Program Coordinator Report:

JodiAnn Eure reported the following:

Current programs:

1. Tiny Tots has 34 participants so far and only one rain day to date.
2. Music Time With Miss Cheryl – current program ends this week and classes are running at almost full capacity.
3. Tai Chi, Mindful Movements and Pilates have small groups but consistent numbers of participants.

Upcoming programs:

1. Music Time With Miss Cheryl has planned classes for May through July as well as one single August program.
2. Stephen Frattini has secured Ice Skating time at the South Kent rink and the theme will be "Winter in July". Dates are still being worked out and will be announced, with advertising expected shortly.
3. Junior Chef Camps will be offered for the last 2 weeks of August 17–20 and August 24-27. Advertising will begin this week.
4. Brazilian Soccer camp is planned for August 24-28, with full day camp for ages 8-14, half day camp for ages 7-14, an hour-long clinic for ages 4-6 and is currently advertised with no registrants to date.

Summer Camp Online registration began on May 1.

Director's Report:

John Wrenn reported the following:

- a. The checking account information for March and April was shared.
- b. Bryce Vore and Ryan Hatcher may be doing their soccer program again this summer.
- c. The Early Bird program and ASP are both doing well.
- d. Camps have 55 participants so far evenly spread out through Junior and Senior Camps, with 26 in Extended Hours, 12 in early hours and 17 enrolled in swim lessons.
- e. Mr. Wrenn is still looking for lifeguards and gate guards.
- f. Don Lowe reported that the contract for use of the JCC by Junior Camp this summer has been verbally agreed upon and Mr. Wrenn will check on the written one.
- g. Tucker finished repairing the docks on May 1. The bill was \$10,640.00 for Tucker as per

the BOS this repair will be paid from the Park and Rec Program account. Therefore, *Kris Fazzone made a motion to approve the payment of \$10,640.00 to Tucker for dock repairs. T.J. Fazzone seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor.*

h. Previous other repairs, which also included additional repairs to the wall, were \$1,200.00, which had been approved at last month's meeting.

I. There are 10 people on the wait list for a boat slip. Kayak rack has 2 rental spots open.

j. Garden plots are all rented.

k. Pavilion dates are filling up quickly.

l. Mr. Wrenn has gotten two good choices for a new office computer estimated at between \$1,200.00-\$1,400.00. Advice came from Jimmy Luchsinger, former IT coordinator for Sherman School.

Kris Fazzone made a motion to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$1,500.00 from the checking account for a new computer for the Park and Recreation Director seconded by Patrick Dillet and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Facilities Reports/Maintenance and Repairs:

a. Fran Frattini advised that she has emailed Brian Wood at First Light to check on progress of approval of new boat dock application. Don Lowe will follow up with Brian Wood. As soon as First Light approves application then the application can be submitted to FERC whose approval process may take up to a year but then the Commission will be ready to proceed with new dock project when the time comes.

b. Kris Fazzone noted that the Munch Meadow sign is installed and that it is parallel to the road, which seems to make it easier to be noticed by passing vehicles.

c. There was a discussion about the temporary parking signs along the Community Garden side of the driveway stating, "Garden Parking Only". Don Lowe and Mr. Fazzone noted their different opinions about the need for the signs. It was noted that some individuals had complained about not being able to park along this stretch of the driveway when the church lot was filled. It was also noted that there is extra parking available in the Colonial Park parking lot for overflow church parking. The permanent signs will be installed soon. There will be only 2 signs installed with one kept as a spare.

d. There was a discussion about the plans for the new Senior Center, how it is being built on Park and Recreation supervised property and that the interests of the Park and Recreation Commission should be integrated into the plans. Stan Greenbaum listed some of the issues that need to be shared with the new Senior Center planning committee, namely bathrooms accessible from the outside of the building, water access, and location and orientation of the proposed building. A plan to meet with the building committee was discussed.

e. Kris Fazzone noted that the school is working on getting water restored to the Veterans' Field bathrooms. Mr. Fazzone also noted that the School House # 1 sign is installed on the Scout House and the new locks and codes are all set. There is a need for a Google calendar for scheduling use of the Scout House, with Scouts having first dibs to use the space. Ms. Eure will look into this. Veterans' field needs to be fertilized. Pickleball players would like another wind screen for the south side of the courts. Pickleballers will fund the screens and Park and Recreation can purchase and install them, as happened with the north side wind screens. There is some damage to the courts. Mr. Fazzone had fixed a small hole that appeared in the surface of one of the courts. There is some chipped exposed concrete, possibly for the squeegees being banged against the surface creating about 20 spots of damage.

f. Atlas Fencing would like to use the parking lot at Colonial Field again this year for

staging equipment as they repair and replace guardrails along Route 37, this project will go through July. The materials would be placed along the perimeter. The consensus was that this plan is acceptable.

Mr. Fazzone also reported that he had requested that the resurfacing of the basketball court happen during the gap between the end of camp and the beginning of school since the asphalt will need time to cure. It was noted that lining of the court will happen at a later date. The process for the paving was discussed and it was noted that the basketball hoops will stay in place during the paving. The repaving project will cost \$35,000.00 just for the asphalt.

g. Mr. Fazzone noted that the sides of Schimpf Pond needed to be built up with about a half dozen bucket loads of soil and some stone being brought in. There is currently no spillway for the pond and Mr. Fazzone will look into creating a spillway.

Old Business/New Business:

a. John Wrenn has a copy of the approved 2026/2027 budget.

b. The Town of Sherman ADA Project report from WTGROUPEAC workshops was sent to Mr. Wrenn and is 47 pages long. There was a discussion. Mr. Wrenn will review the document and report back to the Commission with any serious issues that need attention.

c. Fran Frattini reiterated that the budget had passed.

She also noted that it is time to think about the top 10 items the Commission wants to work on in the coming years (5 to 10 years) from the Workshops Stan Greenbaum noted that one of those top 10 items should be that members of the Commission need to go to the BOS meeting and raise questions about Park and Recreation interests in the building of the new Senior Center, including but not limited to orientation of the building, use of existing parking lot and encroachment on fields. Mr. Greenbaum volunteered to attend and address the concerns of the Commission.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Stan Greenbaum made a motion to adjourn the May 11, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission. Kris Fazzone seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23pm.

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 June 8, 2026

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