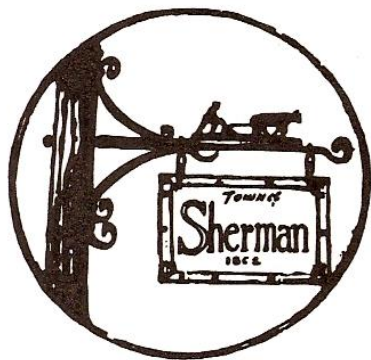




SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Minutes of Regular Meeting July 13, 2026

Present:

Fran Frattini – Chairman
Patrick Dillett
Kris Fazzone
T.J. Fazzone
Bill Teman
Stan Greenbaum (arrived 7:20pm)
John Wrenn – Director

Absent:

Stephen Frattini

Guests: Andrea Maloney (left 7:25pm)

Call to order:

Chairman Fran Frattini called the July 13, Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:15pm.

Pavilion and Facilities Applications:

1. Andrea Maloney had requested all day use of the Pavilion at the Town Park for a Celebration of Life for Michael Zegley on August 30, 2026. The request was made on behalf of the Zegley family and a waiving of the fee was requested.

Kris Fazzone made a motion to approve the application for the use of the Town Park Pavilion for a Celebration of Life for Michael Zegley on August 30, 2026 for the whole day and to waive the fee. T.J. Fazzone seconded. There was a discussion, including that this event was in lieu of a funeral and attendees would be coming and going all day long. There was a vote and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Minutes from June 8, 2026 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2026 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission regular meeting as written was made by T.J. Fazzone, seconded by Bill Teman and the motion was voted with all in favor.

Eagle Scout Project Presentation/Updates:

There were no updates on Community Projects or Eagle Scout projects. John Wrenn noted that JodiAnn Eure had run a test on MyRec to schedule use of the Old School/Scout House. When fully operational, the scheduling system on MyRec should allow the Scouts to request time slots in the building but not to override what Park and Recreation has plugged in. It is anticipated that the system may be ready for use by the August meeting.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Correspondence:

1. John Wrenn shared a letter from resident David Weider of Holiday Point, stating his continuing concerns over the proposed dock expansion project at the Town Park. The letter had been sent to the BOS originally. Mr. Weider opposed any development south of the beach, citing safety issues for non-motor sports in that area. It was noted that at this time there is no plan to include boat slips south of the beach.

There was a discussion, regarding the BOS Special meeting with the Candlewood Lake Authority to discuss the possibility to share some of the existing dock space (maybe five or six slips) at the CLA Marine Patrol area as it appears that CLAMP is presently using only one of its eight slips, discussion at the Special Meeting ended with the CLA noting that they would bring it to the CLA Board. The discussion also included the necessity of using the parking area closer to South Ramp near the CLA office for drop off only and all parking related to Town use (not CLAMP use) would be in the Town Park parking lot.

At this time, the overall time frame for the dock expansion with seawall appears to still be a number of years away and that repairs may need to be made to seawall in the interim.

The on-going application process for approval from First Light and then from FERC was discussed, including the \$10,000 for application fee (which has already been approved by the Town) and the likelihood of a full year or more until FERC approval is issued after First Light submits to them. The status of the application process was discussed. It was noted that it appears that the application is nearly complete. There was a suggestion that Don Lowe ask the engineer, working on the project drawings for the Town, attend a Park and Recreation meeting to help clarify what's still needed and would allow Park and Recreation to take a more active role in the process.

The Commission would like to see the working/final design plan and it was noted that suggestions for the project from Brian Wood of First Light had been followed.

The waiting list for boat slips was discussed, as was the possibility of revisiting the lottery process for boat slip assignments. Options were discussed, including residency requirements, lengths of boat slip assignments and investigating what other area towns do. The consensus was to discuss the process for obtaining a boat slip at a future meeting.

2. John Wrenn had received a letter from the ADA compliance committee which mentioned certificates for materials used at Park and Recreation facilities, as well as a detailed report on Volunteer Park.

Program Coordinator Report:

John Wrenn shared JodiAnn Eure's report, including the following:

Current programs:

1. Mindful Movements has 4 participants, a small but consistent group.
2. Music Time With Miss Cheryl – current program has 23 participants so far. There will be a single-day class in August and then the instructor will be taking a break.
3. Ice Skating began July 12 and the most recent MyRec figures show 49 participants, with 3 more weeks still to go.

Upcoming programs:

1. Junior Chef Camp will be offered for just the week of August 17–20. There are 3 participants so far. The planned August 24-27 has been canceled due to the earlier than expected start of school.
2. 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 one registrant.
3. Hatcher's Sports Camp is planned for 2 weeks, August 10-14 and August 17-21. Full day from 9:00am-2:00pm is for ages 5 to 13. Online registration started yesterday. This camp is currently advertised for early bird pricing.

Director's Report:

John Wrenn reported the following:

- a. The checking account information for June was shared and discussed.
- b. The Early Bird program and ASP for the 2025-2026 school year did well, ending the year \$156.55 in the black. It was noted that these are both worthwhile programs for the community. Also discussed was that the school construction project may be completed by December. Park and Recreation is assuming ASP and Early Bird will continue to have space assigned in the cafeteria as they had prior to construction. Mr. Wrenn will inquire after the school year gets underway.
- c. So far this summer Junior Camp has 77 total enrollees, Senior Camp has about 150. Extended Hours has 90 and Early Drop-off has 47. Swim Lessons have 38 so far.
- d. Mr. Wrenn noted that last week there were days of extreme heat and days of torrential rain when swim lessons had to be canceled. Mr. Wrenn has offered free classes to the swim lesson enrollees who missed half of the session due to weather. On the extreme heat days, Mr. Wrenn did not allow Junior Campers to make the trek from the JCC over the trails to the Town Park for Extended Hours. Mr. Wrenn watches the weather and adjusts Camps, Swim Lessons and Extended Hours accordingly.
- e. There had been a few reported incidences of counselors and lifeguards being distracted from their duties.. Mr. Wrenn is dealing with each of these issues and will speak with the Senior Camp staff and lifeguards.
- f. Mr. Wrenn noted that there had apparently been some sort of birthday celebration at the Pavilion on Sunday and there was a good deal of garbage left at the site. There was no reservation connected to the event. Mr. Wrenn is investigating.
- g. Mr. Wrenn requested approval of the purchase of a new replacement briefcase for the one he has been using for 30 years since it is about to fall apart. In addition, he would like to purchase a laptop carrying case for his new laptop. The consensus was yes, Mr. Wrenn could make those 2 purchases.

Facilities Reports/Maintenance and Repairs:

- a. The boat docks had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

- b. The Commission was asked to think about finalizing rules for use of the Old School House/Scout House now that scheduling sign-up was almost ready.
- c. There is a need to remember Basketball and Tennis Court resurfacing for a future date.
- d. All other areas seem to be in good condition. John Wrenn noted that All Star Batting Range will be fixing the mound on the baseball field. Kris Fazzone noted that repurposed coarse screenings had been used to resurface the track and it will get packed down to a smoother surface with use and rainfall. There were compliments given to Kris Fazzone and the Town Crew for the condition of the fields. Kris Fazzone noted that he would need to purchase more clay this year and inquired where those funds should come from. There was a discussion and it was agreed that funds should come from the “field supplies and maintenance” line item of the Park and Recreation budget. There was a brief discussion about possibly making the beach house back into the summer office for Park and Recreation.
- e. Colonial Park and the proposed new Senior Center project was discussed. Patrick Dillett and Stan Greenbaum had attended a recent Senior Center Building Committee meeting. There was a discussion including that Park and Recreation’s request for bathroom access for people using Colonial Park and a water source for the Community Gardens was eliminated from the plans for the new Senior Center. A different access point for the center other than through the shared church driveway was discussed as well as suggestions for a different orientation for the building that may be more aesthetically pleasing and make the approach to the building easier. Fran Frattini suggested that there be a Park and Recreation representative on the new Senior Center Building Committee to help insure that Park and Recreation concerns for Colonial Park are included in the plans. But this request was denied.

It was noted that once the Town has made the decision to designate part of a Park and Recreation facility like Colonial Park for use by another entity, then the Commission still needs to make clear that the area is still a park and what points are important to include in the new plan that conform to what is left of the area for Park and Recreation’s continued use.

In the case of a new Senior Center at Colonial Parkd, the water for the Community Gardens, access to bathrooms and an entrance road to the new center that was not the same as the church road were key elements. There were suggested locations for an entrance road as well as the possibility of Park and Recreation maintaining bathroom that the Colonial Park patrons would have access to. The field use that will be lost due to Senior Center was discussed, as well as how unsightly a port-a-potty would be outside a new facility. It was noted that even after the new Senior Center is built the area adjacent to it would still be a park. Open space issues at Colonial Park were discussed, including the history of the designation as open space of 36 acres out of the total acreage that make up Colonial Park.

It was the consensus of the Commission that they need to be involved in the design and planning process for the new Senior Center. Patrick Dillett will draft a letter with Park and Recreation’s concerns for the Commission’s review and then it will be sent to the Committee.

It was also noted that Park and Recreation has been planning exercise areas and activities to be created on Colonial Parkd that would specifically enhance the lives of senior citizens.

There was a discussion about increasing coordination between Park and Recreation and other Town departments.

Old Business/New Business:

- a. The approved 2026/2027 budget had been discussed at previous meetings.
- b. There is still a need to follow through with discussions about facilities and grounds improvement workshop suggestions at a later meeting.

c. Mrs. Frattini advised that the revision to the Rules and Regulations Ordinance, Section A #13, concerning refreshment vendors on Park and Recreation property had been sent to the BOS who have agreed to advance it to a Town Meeting for a vote.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Kris Fazzone made a motion to adjourn the July 13, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission. Stan Greenbaum seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14pm.

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 August 10, 2026

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