

Warren Park & Rec Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2026 5:45 - 6:00

Welcome and Attendance: Clayton Spence; Chanda Cunningham-Spence; Christina Hytinen; Denise Puglisi; Ashley Clark; Lisa King; Dottie Gove; Sam Catterall; Patrick Asselin; Dan Dempsey; David Dempsey; Jayne Spaulding; Rick Spaulding

Review of goal/efforts this year/positions available: Goal: Bring together residents who want to help shape the future of Park & Recreation through ideas, teamwork, and shared leadership. This group is fast evolving after being down to one active member in Dec/Jan. Austin Albro has not been able to attend the last two meetings but is still involved. Anyone interested in chairing or joining should contact Austin or Dottie Gove.

Minutes from 2/3/26: C. Cunningham-Spence motioned to approve. Seconded by C. Spence. Approved 13/0/0.

Winter Festival - February 14, 2026. Members shared very positive feedback from community members and volunteers. We were able to give \$481 from door donations to the Red Daisy Revival Band. Additionally, PTO raised \$149 from the basket that L. King put together and donated. The fire was key to meeting and greeting. Will want to have more fire wood for next year.

Coffee Club - D. Dempsey updated that it is going very well with an average of 10 people coming together on Wednesdays beginning at 7 am.

Fiber Arts Group - C. Cunningham-Spence updated that this group ranges from 3 - 10 people getting together every other Saturday to learn, teach, or just get to know each other.

Skating Rink - Discussion ensued regarding getting the ice perfect earlier and not shoveling part of the rink and leaving the rest for later. George, Tom, Jennine, Dan, Patrick, and Jeff were all thanked for their time and talent to put the rink up and maintain it.

Town Hall & School Use - Members updated that the town hall and school can be rented for \$50 - \$75 for private parties and may be free depending on use. Insurance is required. Very positive feedback.

Game Night - On target for this Friday, 3/6 as well as 4/3 from 6 - 8 p.m. Free and all are welcome.

Square Dancing - Feb cancelled due to weather. Next 3/27 .

Welcome Wagon/Committee - C. Hytinen updated members that she has reached out to A. Albro for a list of businesses and then will work to get written material for the baskets. Town reports will be added. Park and Rec or the town may want to add a candle or other trinkets.

Sandlot Baseball - P. Asselin has connected with B. Pike. Hippie and the local softball team are very interested in volunteering and moving this initiative forward. This will be a pickup style educational program for any interested child. S. Cataldo shared Connecticut Valley LL is always looking for teams to scrimmage. Patrick will set up a separate meeting to work out more details and report back in April. Also discussed that school kids or PTO may want to run the concession booth.

Kick Ball - Members interested in organizing a weekly evening of kick ball for anyone interested.

Summer Concerts - A. Albro has connected with Mountain Melody to not have summer concerts on the same nights. Austin is still looking to book bands. Members feel that the quality of the bands and advertising is key to a good attendance. Limited Commotion and Red Daisy Revival were both great bands and those names have been given to Austin. Discussed having one concert with food trucks or additional entertainment to pull more people and to reach out to the campgrounds to be sure they are aware. Positive feedback for Peter B's sign by the Masonic Hall to get the word out.

Easter Egg Hunt - S. Catterall and D. Puglisi agreed to lead this initiative to be held on the common and playground. S. Catterall & Ben Toomey offered to sponsor. D. Gove and C. Cunningham-Spence have access to empty plastic eggs. D. Puglisi has talked with the Easter Bunny who may be able to make a surprise appearance. P & R also has funds available for candy. Group chat will be set up to work on details.

Library happenings - Maria Sanders provided upcoming events including March 14th at 10 am for Water Color Paint Making with Dr. Suzanne Gaulocher; March 18th at 3 p.m. Quest for Happiness Talk with Dr. Maria Sanders; and Tuesdays at 3:30 Board Game Group.

Flower Containers - D. Gove shared that Sue Randall has been leading the initiative to beautify the common with flowers planted and cared for by local individuals often in memory of loved ones. A few barrels are in need of adoptees. Much interest. D. Gove will reach out to S. Randall and add to the next agenda.

Misc: - Beautifying main street with barrels or trees. Movie night with possibility to using big screen from Scenic View. Puppy Yoga. Will add to next agenda.

Social Media/Facebook Group - S. Cataldo shared that there are 728 members who are already part of a Warren Park and Rec Group. Current administrators are A. Albro and Heather Sackett. D. Gove will reach out to Austin for more administrative posting abilities. S. Catterall will reach out to Steven Lester who is great at knowing what is going on and promoting events.

Next Meeting: April 6, 2026 5:45 - 6:45 at WVS