



Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 19, 2026
7:00- Senior Lounge - 80 Main St., Terryville, CT
MINUTES

Shirley Kowalska
TOWN CLERK

2026 MAR 23 AM 10:47

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD

1. **Call to Order- Please state Date & Time for the Record**

The Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order on March 19, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. by **Chairman Dennis Fowler** in the Senior Lounge, 80 Main St., Terryville, CT.

2. **Attendance**

Members in attendance included: **Chairman Dennis Fowler, Rich Schnaars, Dave Downes, Kerry Bamrick, Director Maureen Cappetto, Councilman T.J. Zagurski** and Pam Pelletier-Recording Secretary.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance – Led by the Chairman.**

4. **Fire Exits – Pointed out by the Chairman.**

5. **Approval of Minutes**

- February 19, 2026 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Rich Schnaars made a motion, which was seconded by **Dave Downes** to accept the minutes of the February 19, 2026 Regular meeting and the motion is voted on unanimously.

6. **Public Participation- NONE**

7. **Terryville Youth Soccer Club Report – No report.**

8. **Program Financials to date**

Reviewed with General Discussion. **Director Cappetto** reports that we are where we should be. The revolving account is discussed. **Director Cappetto** advised that she has received payment from Terryville Youth Soccer Club for their portion of the Water bill. She also notes that additional expenditures will be reflected in next month's Financial report.

9. **March for Hunger / Early Childhood Run**

March for Hunger -Food Pantry is looking for approval – Scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 10:00 am.

MOTION: Kerry Bamrick made a motion, which was seconded by **Dave Downes** to approve the event and the motion is voted on unanimously.

Early Childhood Run- EdAdvance is looking for approval for this event to be held sometime in June 2026.

MOTION: Rich Schnaars made a motion, which was seconded by **Kerry Bamrick** to approve this event and the motion is voted on unanimously.

10. Director's Report (Report is attached)

- **Allstars** - Program was great, coaches oversaw the program. Everyone had a great time. General discussion regarding basketball program. Adult pick up basketball was cancelled due to very low registration. May run again in the Fall.
- **Christmas Light Decorating contest** – All Gift Cards have been sent to our winners.
- **Spring cheer** – will start in April. We will also be adding a session for middle school students.
- **Summer Camp** – Brian Falcone contacted the department and wanted to delay the opening of camp by two days, but after discussion agreed to allow us to open as planned on June 23, 2026. Our advertising registrations have already begun. Seems on track for now. Will be hiring one or two part-time counselors; John and Rich will interview.

Also noted: we are hoping to be able to offer Breakfast and Lunch again this year, we are working on a plan.

- **Fish Derby** – Will basically remain the same. There is general discussion. **Chairman Dennis Fowler** feels that we should extend this program to include 8th grade students; other Commissioners agree.

MOTION: Dave Downs made a motion, which was seconded by **Rich Schnaars** to extend the Fishing Derby program to include up to 8th grade students and the motion in voted on unanimously.

- **Tree Lighting** – **Director Cappetto** advised that she met with the Mayor. Tree lighting will be a subcommittee of Parks and Recreation, and donations and expenses will run through the Town. As long as all volunteers stay active, we should not have a problem. We will evaluate in January 2027 .
- **Lanterns on the Lake Hancock Brook Lake** – There is general discussion regarding entertainment. **Director Cappetto** would like the commission's input on whether she should investigate other options or go with one of the bands from previous years. Commission members were very happy with our past two choices and received positive feedback from attendees. After discussion, it is suggested that we alternate between the two. **Director Cappetto** will reach out to the band that played at our first event and if they are unavailable will check with last year's choice.
- **Pickleball Tournament** – will schedule for early May. Plans have started; we already have registrations coming in.
- **Senior Transportation** – May have option of five days of service at a much lower cost.
- **New Highway Supervisor hired** - This position was previously held by Jim Schultz. Spoke briefly with the Mayor, things are going to be organized differently but it appears our parks will be kept as a priority and not much will be changing for now. The **Director** will keep the Commission updated.

11. Chairman/Commissioners Comments

Rich Schnaars thanks everyone for all their hard work and is very happy with discussions held tonight.

Dave Downs – Happy with everything as reported.

Kerry Barrick – Great updates and discussion.

Chairman Fowler – Thanks everyone for their support and backup. We are in a great spot with all of our programs, basketball is going well.

12. Adjourn

MOTION: **Rich Schnaars** made a motion, which was seconded by **Dave Downes** to adjourn the meeting and the motion is voted on unanimously.

Submitted by,

Pamela Pelletier, Recording Secretary

Plymouth Parks and Recreation Director Report – March 19, 2026

Current programs

- **Senior events** – Men's group first meeting was very fun but low attendance. We will continue to grow with the grant we have. Senior Lunch & Learn was full this month so word is spreading.
- **Adult pick up basketball leagues** – I cancelled the Young Adult Pick Up League. 16+ people were attending but 2 people registered after I personally went and told them to register. Fee was \$30 for 11 sessions. Hated to do it. We will run again in the fall and maybe they will register. Maybe pay each week as you attend. Meanwhile Old man ball is still running strong.
- Surveys will be sent to basketball program parents and cheer parents. I'll report next month on results.

Prior programs

- **Town wide Christmas light decoration contest** – We received a nice thank you from one of the winners. We will co-sponsor with Lions Club again.

Future programs

- **Spring cheer will start in April with Kara Banche**- She is middle school coach and is adding a session for middle school kids
- **Summer Camp** – Falcone tried to delay opening day to Thursday June 25th. We already had registrations and we are not allowed to run a week longer. I spoke to him and he agreed to let us open on Tuesday June 23rd. Two weeks of 4 days and 5 weeks of 5 day. Some different themes and trips most mostly the same format. Seems on track for now. Will be hiring one or two part time counselors. John and Rich will interview so no conflict.
- **Pickleball tournament** – Early May. Plans have started. We already have court reservations coming in.
- **Lunch and Learns** in May, July & September. I don't have a topic yet for May.
- **Fishing Derby is Saturday May 9th**- Expecting most things to remain the same. We will just be a bit more selective with volunteer shirts.

Odds and Ends

- **Tree Lighting Ceremony** Attended meeting and spoke with Mayor. Tree Lighting will be a subcommittee of Parks and Recreation so that donations and expenses are run through the town. As long as all the volunteers stay active, it should be another success. We will evaluate in January 2027 if this set up works for all involved. No new town wide events for us this year. Let's see how we do with all we have taken on already.
- **Spring date for test run of pizza tour** – weekday or weekend? I will send a google doc with dates this week. Max graduating has a lot of events. I need to get my availability set first. My fault for delay.
- **Working on senior transportation** – I met with the DOT about funding. We will be changing how things are done. May have an option for 5 of service at a much lower cost. It's not our budget but still good for the town.
- **Lanterns on Lake Winfield** – Do we what the Rakes again or do we want different entertainment every year?
- **Budget** – Our request for ½ additional person for permanent parks maintenance made it past round of cuts. I will keep you updated
- **New Highway Supervisor hired** – This position was Jimmy Schultz. I worked closely with him for parks. Spoke briefly with mayor, new high supervisor and new-ish Public Works Director. Things are going to be organized differently but it appears our parks will be kept as a priority and not much changing for now.