



Special Meeting
Wednesday September 24, 2025
7:00- Senior Lounge - 80 Main St., Terryville, CT
MINUTES

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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2025 SEP 30 PM 2:25

1) **Call to Order**

A Special Meeting of the Plymouth Parks & Recreation was called to order by **Chairman Dennis Fowler** on September 24, 2025 in the Senior Lounge, 80 Main Street, Terryville, CT at 7:02 p.m.

2) **Members in attendance included:** **Chairman Dennis Fowler, Rich Schnaars, Kelly Vitale, Kerri Bamrick, Dave Downes, Kathy Bilodeau, Director Maureen Cappetto, T.J. Zagurski-Council liaison 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** –

MOTION: Rich Schnaars made a motion, which was seconded by **Kerry Bamrick** to approve the minutes of June 19, 2025 as presented and the motion was voted on unanimously.

6) **Public Participation** – None

7) **Terryville Youth Soccer Club Report** -Jennifer Gode

"I'd first like to thank Maureen and Public Works for their immediate action in trying to help us solve a water leak at the Lions Club Field. They were all very responsive and supportive as we tried to figure out what was happening. Thank you!

For some potential bad news. The water system has a potential leak located before the connection that goes to the field. We have reached out to Three Leaf to see if they can help identify the actual issue and then provide an estimate on how to solve it. The reality is that a section might need to be dug up on the side of the parking lot to resolve this. More to come on next steps once we know more.

The fall season started this month, and we have two travel teams playing on the field. We are continuing to use Hancock Field for our recreational programs and our youngest travel team.

Off the field, we'll be bringing cars and volunteers again this year to the fairgrounds for the Lions Club Trunk or Treat event."

8) **Program Financials to date** – Distributed and reviewed by the Commission General Discussion.

Summer Camp – Summary of Revenue and Expenses discussed. We actually made out pretty well this year with camp. **Director Cappetto** explained that we made different choices on field trips which saved us money and also participated in the free lunch program offered by Ed Advance so there was less expense on snacks and such. Overall, everything went very well. She recommended staying with the same participation rates for next year.

Dave Downes commented that he heard very positive feedback.

9) **Revolving Account Financials** – General discussion. Director Cappetto believes that this account has finally been straightened out by the Finance Office. She recommends that everyone put their ideas together to submit for consideration as projects that could come out of this fund. We have not been able to spend any of this money over the past few years because we did not have an accurate fund balance. She will set up a shared google drive online for Commissioners to submit their ideas so that others can have access to review and comment. She recommends that we include a capital request for a playground at the Gear Drive facility as there have been multiple inquiries from residents. Requests are due by 10/31/2025.

10) **Directors Report** –

Plymouth Parks and Recreation Director Report – September 24, 2025

Current programs

- ***Pickleball courts*** – closing November 30th
- ***Kayak Kiosk*** - closing November 30th
- ***Kayak Rack*** – closing November 30th
- ***Community Garden*** – closing November 1st and the water is shutting off that day as well
- ***Senior events*** – Active Living Every Day - 12-week course has 6 participants; Senior Lunch and Learn in October and Brain Health 3-part series 7 participants. I received a grant to have 6 Senior Lunch & Learns. I submitted for a grant to have Senior events specific to men.

Future programs

- ***Rec Basketball and Cheer*** – should start November 1st. It is not clear on what is happening with the middle school gym. We will have background checks for coaches and concussion waivers for parents to sign. I would like to add No Food or Drinks in the Gym policy acknowledgment at registration and families are responsible for their guests. Any violators will be asked to leave the gym. I won't ask coaches or coordinators to enforce but I will when I attend. Kelsey Tefoe will be back to run younger groups. Sam Dionne will be back to run cheer. I have not confirmed Jake recently, but he has previously stated he will be back. Registration price should not increase as long as we have Eli Terry gym.
- ***Pickleball tournament*** – moving to April or early May. I have a person to run it. When we open the courts and we will have another Learn pickleball events
- ***Bus trip to Salem*** – with Thomaston Recreation on October 26th
- ***Lanterns on Lake Winfield*** – on Monday Our band cancelled but I booked a new one The Rakes. In order to get the band, I had to alter our event times from 5-9pm to 6-10pm. The band will play from 6:30pm-9:30pm. My plan is to have more volunteers, so we only need 2-hour shifts. This will enable volunteers to enjoy the event. We will have nicer jacket with logo for volunteers. We will be paying park maintenance again this year to set up on Saturday and some clean up on Sunday. We have started to receive local sponsors. Signs and banners had to be reworked. They will be posted next week.
- ***Sight and Sound trip in December***

Odds and Ends

- *Our capital requests need to be submitted by October 31st.*
- *Revolving fund balance is in accounting system. I am sharing the report. We will brainstorm ideas so we have a list of projects to justify the money.*
- *I attended the Beautification committee meeting to kick off now wants solar lights at “Michaela’s Garden” wildflower garden at the new parking lot at North Street Reservoir. I am opposed to this. It’s a precedent I don’t like. There aren’t lights at the reservoir. All parks are closed dusk until dawn. We all know we had neighbor push back at the installation of the lot.*

MOTION: Kelly Vitale made a motion, which was seconded by Kerry Bamrich to **deny the request** for lights on the beds at the reservoir. There is general discussion, there are no other lights at this facility, it closes at dusk, and we do not want to get complaints from the area residents.

- *Lions club ordered swing for Veterans Memorial honoring young local boy who drowned last summer. It has been received but I have no idea what is happening with the plaque.*
- *Communication meetings (Town Hall Tea) started in July. It was well attended and well received. I have stalled on our Community Facebook page as I wanted a calendar attached. IT dept. is working to help me make it work seamlessly. I want it to work well from day 1. I am disappointed in my progress. IT dept. will also help with remodeling our part of the town website.*
- *Applying for a grant to improve the look of the community garden. Same plan as we submitted for ARPA money. Application due Oct 1st.*

11) **Lanterns on the Lake** –

Director Cappetto advised that she had to do a little reorganizing because the band requested a change for their time slot – they will be starting a little later 6:00-10:00 pm.

She has acquired two shuttles for transportation from the school to the lake. She distributes a sign-up sheet for timeslots and assignments for the Commission to indicate when and where they would like to work. She made the time slots shorter this year so that volunteers will have a little time to enjoy the event themselves. There is general discussion about minor changes this year, signage, table set ups, etc. Overall, we are in good shape.

12) **Commissioners Comments** –

Dave Downes – hearing positive feedback from the public and our volunteers.

Kelly Vitale – Looking forward to our Fall Season.

Chairman Dennis Fowler is looking forward to our future year.

13) **Adjournment** –

Rich Schnaars made a motion, which was seconded by **Kerry Bamrick** to adjourn the meeting at 7:47p.m. and the motion was voted on unanimously.

Submitted by,

Pam Pelletier, Recording Secretary