

OL Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
10/2/2025 – 6:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting (in person and telephone call-in)
In-person location: Meeting Hall, Town Hall, 52 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bob Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

ATTENDANCE

In Person: Bob Dunn (Chairman), Mary Ellen Garbarino, Ryan Lee, Sara van Vliet (Vice Chairman), Don Bugbee (Director)

On Phone: Tim Gavin

Absent: Missy Garvin, Brendan McKeever, Winnie Edmed (Assistant PR Director)

Guests: Martha Shoemaker, Candace Fuchs, Mark Hastings on video (RLA)

APPROVE previous meeting minutes – Special meeting September 15, 2025

Sara van Vliet moved to accept the meeting minutes of September 15, 2025, and Tim Gavin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Hastings from the Roger's Lake Authority reviewed the present situation regarding the RLA patrol boat along with the cost of a dock and a small storage shed at Hains Park. The project should cost about \$10,000. Mark reported that the superintendent of schools has offered to fund one-half of the cost, and the RLA is looking for the Town to fund the other one-half. Bob Dunn asked since so much of the lake is located in Lyme, had Lyme been asked to contribute to the funding? Mark Hastings will look into asking the town of Lyme to pitch in on the cost. Bob Dunn will share his on-line findings on docks as requested by Candace Fuchs. Bob Dunn would like to meet with the superintendent of schools over this matter.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Presented by Don Bugbee

a. Update on PRC programs and facilities

Parks and Rec Programs

Rec-Desk registration is required for all Parks and Rec programs. All details are listed on Rec-Desk and are advertised on the Parks and Rec website, Facebook, and Instagram.

Fall Programs

Current and on-going **Fall Programs** include men's basketball, women's basketball, adult co-ed soccer, adult co-ed volleyball, Zumba fitness, tennis sessions, adult pickleball, youth pickleball, youth soccer and a middle school boys basketball camp.

Winter Programs

Men's basketball and women's basketball programs are scheduled. Co-ed volleyball, Zumba fitness and youth basketball are in the planning stages.

Additional Program Information

The contract has been signed for the CAS Youth Soccer Camp, and it is scheduled to run August 3-7 in 2026 at Town Woods Park.

Facilities

No recent major facility problems have been noted as of late. Cross Lane Park, Town Woods Park, Hains Park and White Sand Beach are all open and in use daily. White Sand Beach bathrooms are expected to close for the season after Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day. The remaining bathroom facilities will close in early November, based on the weather.

The sand berms are expected to be pushed back into place at White Sand Beach by late October. These berms have been successful in helping control beach erosion and high-water situations that usually occur over the winter months.

OLD BUSINESS

Hains Park playscape update

Sara van Vliet spoke regarding the ordering of the new playscape for Hains Park. It was ordered several weeks ago and should be installed in November. She spoke as to the cost and the question of the bid-process and how the PRC will be saving money on installation fees.

Hains Park picnic tables update

Two of the three picnic tables have arrived at Public Works and the third will arrive shortly.

Hains Park beach cleaning update

Martha Shoemaker stated that she would ask Ed Adanti at Public Works if they would add Hains Park beach cleaning to their responsibilities and she will get back to Don Bugbee.

Hains Park survey, lake survey

Sara van Vliet had sent to members the Master Plan of Hains Park. There was a discussion about a lake survey, dredging, and the possibility of available state grants. Martha Shoemaker stated that she will reach out to RiverCOG for information on any surveys that they might have on file.

Review of current Parks and Rec Program structure and fees

The Commission reviewed the fees for all Parks and Rec programs. This information was given to members several weeks ago for review. Ideas were shared regarding fees with most of the

focus on daycamp. Don Bugbee and Winnie Edmed will continue to reach out to other towns to ask about their fees and discuss options discussed at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ADJOURNMENT

Ryan Lee moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM and Sara van Vliet seconded the motion.
SO VOTED.

The next meeting of this Commission is scheduled for November 6, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Garbarino, Secretary