

Recreation Meeting Minutes

January 6 2026

Present: Vicki Donlan, Mark Thorell, Steven Buckley, Adrienne Ramsey, Steve Melia, Matt LeBretton, Jacki Muh

Absent:

Guest: A. Nalen, Ben Gutierrez

- I. Vicki Donlan called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM remotely.

This meeting is being held in person and/or remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.

- II. A motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 2 was made by Steven Buckley and seconded by Steve Melia. It was unanimously approved.

Vote:

Matt LeBretton: Yes

Adrienne Ramsey: Yes

Steven Buckley: Yes

Steve Melia: Yes

Vicki Donlan: Yes

- III. Program Update: Indoor pickleball will be beginning this month in the basketball gym. There will be another Friday Night Event for the Kindergarten through fifth graders on January 16th.

This upcoming Wednesday there will be another Early Release Sports class and a Home Alone Safety class.

Last month, Funky Feet School of dance hosted their four mid-year dance recitals and the Funky Nutcracker. There were a total of 1,964 tickets sold for the four shows and an additional 548 tickets sold for the Funky Nutcracker.

Another Session of East Explorers and Foster PLUS will begin next week. Some of the classes being run are STEM, Multisport, Acting, Bracelets, Cheerleading, Harbor Media, Edible Garden, and a new Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. The enrollment numbers are 156 enrolled for East Explorers and 204 enrolled for Foster PLUS.

- IV. Summer Program Update: The summer calendars are almost done. Depending on the school calendar, there may be an eleventh week of summer this year. That should be

known in the coming weeks. All summer camp counselor, CIT and lifeguard applications are due on Thursday, February 5th. We have posted about the position on our social media, sent an email blast to families, have reached out to the Hingham Anchor and have announcements on the morning announcements at Hingham High School and Notre Dame Academy. One of the requirements for the counselors 16 years old and older is that they are required to work the July 4th Road Race. Counselors hired at 15 are not required to work the Road Race because they would have to begin work before 7am.

Registration for the summer and spring programs will begin the first week of March. Registration will be four different days which helped with online delays that have happened in past years.

- V. Haley Field Accessibility Update: The first 100 feet of the Haley Field driveway has been repaved. Due to the weather, the remaining driveway will be done early spring. There will also be barriers and guard rails to distinguish where cars can and cannot park. The guard rails should be installed in early spring before the baseball season begins. The pathway connection will take longer because it will have to be approved by the Planning Board.
- VI. Hersey Field Accessibility Project: The Recreation Commission will be asking for about \$333,000 to connect the parking lot to the playground and spectator area. It will also include accessible parking and adding guard rails for safety. Comments from residents questioned the amount of space between the third base line and the wetlands. Vicki acknowledged that the Conservation Committee will be contacted and will consult on the project.
- VII. FY2027 Revolving Fund Warrant Article: Mark mentioned his maximum projection for the total amount spent in Fiscal Year 2027 will be \$2,900,000. It is likely to be less than projected but the extra amount will give flexibility on projects if needed. The vote on the amount spent will be Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30pm.
- VIII. FY 2026 Budget Update: There has not been any updates on the budget since last month. Invoices for the dance costumes will be paid in the next month or two. Invoices for the summer field trips will be paid within the next few months.
- IX. The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30pm on Zoom.
- X. The next Monthly Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd at 6:30pm on Zoom.

XI. Steve Melia made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm and Steve Buckley seconded it. It was a unanimous vote.

Vote:

Matt LeBretton: Yes

Adrienne Ramsey: Yes

Steven Buckley: Yes

Steve Melia: Yes

Vicki Donlan: Yes