

Recreation Meeting Minutes

March 3 2026

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

Absent:

Guest:

- I. Vicki Donlan called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 February 3 was made by Steven Buckley and seconded by Steve Melia. It was unanimously approved.

Vote:

Steve Melia: Yes

Steven Buckley: Yes

Matt LeBretton: Yes

Adrienne Ramsey: Yes

Vicki Donlan: Yes

- III. Program Update: The after school programs at Foster Elementary and East Elementary both began a new session this week. Registration numbers for Foster PLUS are around 200 participants and there are about 190 registered for East Explorers. Some of the classes offered are Cookie Decorating, Magnitude Strength + Power, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Yoga, Acting, Slime, Cheerleading, Gardening, and Multisport.

Registration for spring programs begins this upcoming Friday. Some of those projects include Street Hockey, Field Hockey, Tennis, Youth Pickleball, Kid Kickers, Volleyball, Basketball, and Golf. There are multiple drop in adult classes offered each week including Yoga, Spin classes, Dance Fitness, Cardio Dance, Ballet Conditioning and Harbor Hoops.

There will be a Half Day program offered for the Early Release Day tomorrow. So far there are about 30 enrolled for tomorrow.

- IV. Summer Program Update: Teen Extreme registration began today. There was over 1,000 registrations this morning. Last year, there were a total of 1,174 Teen Extreme registrations. Registration for Half Day Preschool, Full Day Preschool and Fun Time will begin tomorrow at 10am. Registration for Parkland, Sports Experience, Harbor Girl Sports and Adventure Club will begin on Thursday at 10am. Spring registration will begin on Friday. We will be offering 9.5 weeks of Fun Time, Adventure Club and Teen Extreme because of the snow days. Preschool will still be offered the full ten weeks. Counselor interviews began this past Saturday. Staff schedules and hire letters will be sent out the first week of April. There were over 200 applications turned in. The Recreation Department is working on rewriting the counselor and senior staff handbooks.
- V. Plymouth River School Basketball Court Project Update: The project went before the Community Preservation Committee and the Select Board and they are both in favor of the project. It will go before the Advisory Committee this upcoming Thursday. It will be voted on at Town Meeting with the other proposed CPC projects. Matt suggested creating a post to educate the public on what Community Preservation Funds are able to be used for.
- VI. Spring Turf Maintenance Discussion: The infields will be edged, graded and groomed and bases will be installed at all of the Town infields. All of the sprinklers will be turned on in April. The Turf Maintenance Budget is the same as it was when it was first created with the exception of the 3% Cost of Living Adjustment.
- VII. FY 2026 Budget Update: Mark will be sending out budget updates tomorrow. Expenses for field trips and summer entertainers will be coming out of the budget soon. The income from spring and summer enrollment will be shown in the coming weeks.
- VIII. Open Forum: Mark informed the Commission that there is a citizen who is trying to start a Youth Commission. The description of the Youth Commission seems very similar to the Recreation Commission and the School Committee. The Select Board is not in favor of the Youth Commission. It will be discussed at the Advisory Committee on Thursday.
- IX. The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7th at 6:30pm on Zoom.
- X. Matt LeBretton made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm and Steve Melia seconded it. It was a unanimous vote.
Vote:
Steve Melia: Yes
Matt LeBretton: Yes
Vicki Donlan: Yes