

OL Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
06/05/25 – 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 6:08 pm.

ATTENDANCE

In Person: Bob Dunn (Chairman), Missy Garvin, Sara van Vliet (Vice Chairman), Don Bugbee (Director)

On Phone: Tim Gavin and Brendan McKeever

Absent: Mary Ellen Garbarino, Ryan Lee, Winnie Edmed (Assistant PR Director)

Guest: NONE

APPROVE previous meeting minutes – Special Meeting: May 12, 2025

Sara van Vliet moved to accept the meeting minutes of May 12, 2025, and Bob Dunn seconded the motion. **SO VOTED.**

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.

On-going Programs

The following programs are ending this week for the season. Women's Basketball, Men's Basketball, Adult Volleyball, Zumba Fitness, Adult Soccer, and Adult Softball. There were 181 registered participants in these programs. Thanks to all who participated.

Adult Tennis-Intermediate Play

The sessions run on Saturdays and Sundays, 8-9:30am into September at Cross Lane Park. There are currently 9 registered participants.

Pickleball Sessions

All pickleball sessions are held at Cross Lane Park.

The Old Lyme Parks and Rec open play sessions are held on Mondays and Thursdays,

8-10am. The Lymes Senior Center sponsored pickleball sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 12:30-3pm. The following sessions will be starting this week and will run weekly thru the summer.

Tuesdays, 5:30-7pm Round Robin Play Women 3.5+

Thursdays, 5:30-7:30pm Round Robin- All invited.

Fridays, 10am-12 noon Drills with Instructor

Saturdays, 10am-12pm Point Play with Instructor

Up-coming Programs

Men's Basketball and Woman's Basketball

Participants from these programs are wanting to continue gathering and extend the season thru the summer. We are discussing this situation, which mainly will require reserving days/times at the Cross Lane courts.

Spring Pickleball Tournaments

The tournament scheduled for Saturday, June 7 from 8am-4pm at Cross Lane Park has been postponed and will be rescheduled. Updates will be provided.

Summer Daycamp and After-care

These camps are scheduled to run June 25-Aug 1 and will be held at LOLHS.

Registration began on April 1. Currently there are 279 participants registered for Daycamp and 52 for after-care.

CAS Soccer Camps

The Old Lyme Parks and Rec sponsored CAS Camp is scheduled for Aug 4-8 and the Lyme Parks and Rec sponsored CAS Camp is scheduled for June 23-27. Both camps will be held at Town Woods Park.

Summer Staff

Assembling the summer staff is still in process. This includes daycamp supervisors, counselors, counselors-in-training, lifeguards and parking lot attendants. We are anticipating hiring 50 seasonal employees and have approximately 30 volunteer CITs on staff. Daycamp staff training and camp set-up dates are scheduled for June 18, 19, 23 and 24, 9am-12 noon. Lifeguards are scheduled to start June 14 and parking attendants have started.

Facilities

Cross Lane Park

Cross Lane Park is in daily operation with Little League Baseball and softball, pickleball, tennis and basketball.

Town Woods Park

Town Woods Park is open and in use by the Lacrosse Club, the Soccer Club, Lyme/Old Lyme Little League and Parks and Rec. Fifth grade students from Mile Creek School will have their field day on June 12.

Hains Park

Rowing Club activities are active on a daily basis. The Old Lyme Rowing Association National Learn to Row Day event is scheduled for June 7.

White Sand Beach

The gazebo repairs were completed. The beach cleaning schedule has started. Swim marker buoys have been installed. Swim lines and floats are not required per the requirements of the DEEP permit. The lifeguard stand is expected to be installed early next week. Forth and first grade students from Mile Creek School will have their field trip at the beach.

OLD BUSINESS

Goose mitigation at Hains Park / replace coyotes, goose scram

Bob Dunn reported that there are less geese at the park at this time, so the coyotes and the swans must be helping along with the egg addling. The coyotes were taken again so more have been ordered. The application of the Geese Scram is on hold for now until the problem gets worse.

Survey Monkey for Hains Park – summary letter

Sara van Vliet is ready to send out the summary letter.

Hains Park Pavilion (deposit refund) / playscape location, installation, pathway

Bob Dunn reported that the pavilion company will be refunding the full deposit for the pavilion which amounts to \$5,776.

Hains Park weekly beach clean-up

Don Bugbee reported that Public Works has been asked to do beach clean-ups at Hains Park and Don is still working on the scheduling details. They did such a great job last year.

Hains Park picnic tables

Bob Dunn stated that even though the pavilion is not being ordered at this time, there will still be three additional picnic tables ordered and placed. One will be ADA approved. Members decided that they should be ordered in green. Missy Garvin spoke of tables that the OLYSB has that have green table tops and seats with the legs in black and they are powder coated making upkeep easier. Missy and Sara will come back to the commission with quotes.

Cross Lane playground repairs and landscaping

Sara van Vliet reported on the meeting at Hains Park to review placement for the new playscape. Sara has a mark-up and Eric Knapp will stake it out at the site tomorrow. The plan will also be submitted to zoning for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Any other new business

Don Bugbee reported that he was approached by the president of the Ticks LAX Club regarding use of the TWP fields one night a week during from June 25 thru August 20. Don explained that

this is the time that our TWP fields rest so they will be in great shape for the fall season and this plan has been successful. Don suggested that the Ticks look into using the turf fields at the school. Unfortunately the turf field is all booked. Don Bugbee will ask the Ticks president (only 35% of the team is from L/OL) if the other towns involved could share field use in their town. There was a discussion.

Brendan McKeever moved to approve the request by the Ticks LAX Club to use the TWP fields from dates as requested in their email request (June 25 – August 20), one night per week. This is conditioned upon the LAX Club paying for the lining of the field(s) they use. The PRC reserves the right to cancel said approval at any time. There is a further condition that as the LAX Club is made up of 35% LOL kids with the rest of the kids coming from Old Saybrook and the Valley area, that these towns be requested to contribute field time. Missy Garvin seconded the motion.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Missy Garvin inquired about the fishing derby held in past years at Cross Lane Pond in the spring. This was sponsored by the OLFD. Brendan McKeever stated that he was always concerned for the fish as the pond was pretty stagnant and low come the end of the summer. Missy will look into it and get back to the PRC.

CORRESPONDENC - None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJOURNMENT

Missy Garvin moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM and Sara van Vliet seconded the motion.
SO VOTED.

The next meeting of this Commission is scheduled for July 3, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Garbarino, Secretary