

HARTFORD PARKS & RECREATION MINUTES

10/16/25 5:34 pm Meeting called to order by David Crocco Jr.

Commission Members In Attendance

Tom McCleary, David M. Crocco Jr., Allison Childs, Nikki Boyle, Joeseeph Denny, Erin Wetherell

Commission Members Absent

Brett Mayfield

Others in Attendance

Scott Hausler (Director), Ashley Andreas (Selectboard Liaison)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Erin Wetherell. Seconded by: Allison Childs

In Favor unanimous Opposed None

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? Approved

Citizen Comments

None

Commission Member Comments

None

Directors Report

Scott mentioned that he received a negative email about the Parks and Recreation logo painted on the center of the ice in the WABA ice rink. The person thought the Hurricanes school logo should be painted on center ice, instead. Scott said how the WABA rink is Town of Hartford property and that many different groups besides the Hartford School district use the rink. The Storm Hockey group pays close to 100K every year toward use of the rink.

Hartford Parks and Recreation Department received the CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) certification, once again. The certification is good for 5 years. Scott mentioned that all 153 standards were passed, except 1.

Victoria Lester has been hired by Parks and Recreation as a part-time Administrative Assistant. The position is for 20 hours per week. Victoria will be doing park permits and other duties as assigned.

Old Business

The Lyman Point Project is a phased project and Scott continues to work with Park Architects on the design. The results of the community survey are still being looked at and evaluated.

New Business

Most of the meeting was spent touring the Wendell A. Barwood Arena (WABA). Scott introduced the commission members to Cory Kenison, lead Outdoor Staff person. Cory spoke about the remaining time the town's parks are open to the public. Later in November and into December closures will happen when the ground freezes and gets hard and playground equipment may be unsafe to use.

The last major renovation of the WABA occurred in 2019. An agreement has been entered into with Friar Engineering to do an assessment of the WABA ice skating arena. This assessment will help determine what improvements can be made to address the problems with condensation and if the capacity of the ice-making equipment is adequate.

The WABA will be used by a roller derby league in the spring.

Scott mentioned that there has been discussions about using the WABA as a cooling place during extreme heat and also as a Red Cross shelter.

The consideration that was given to installing solar panels on the roof of the WABA were dismissed. It was determined that the possible snow load, along with the solar panels, could be too great a weight to support.

There currently is a 35K/year reserve fund. Scott said he would like to see it increase to 60K. The extra funds would be used to cover the cost of purchasing a new Zamboni plus other unexpected cost for running the WABA.

The Commission members were escorted to the ice-making equipment room and given a fairly thorough explanation of how the system works. Cory mentioned that the designer of the system was General Technologies. He said the Town has a contract for preventive maintenance with General Technologies and they have a very good response rate if they are called to respond to a problem.

Next Meeting

November 13 @ 5 pm – Municipal Building

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Allison Childs

Seconded by: _____

All in Favor: ___unanimous_____

Opposed: _____none_____

Respectfully submitted by: ____Thomas McCleary_____

Date: _10/16/2025_____

Hartford Parks & Recreation Commission Members

Chair: David M. Crocco Jr. (4/1/2027)

Vice Chair: Allison Childs (04/04/2025)

Clerk: Tom McCleary (03/08/2027)

Member: Brett Mayfield (05/16/2025)

Member: Nikki Boyle (04/04/2025)

Member: Joeseeph Denny (03/11/2027)

Member: Erin Wetherell (01/23/2027)

Selectboard Liaison: Ashley Andreas