Agenda

Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting - Monday, **March 9,** 2025

Call to Order

Public Comment

1. Trumbull PD— National Night Out – August 4
2. Trumbull Volunteer Fire Company No.1 Inc. – Touch a Truck – June 20
3. Sara Terry – Spring Fling Fundraiser – May
4. Dan Viera & Tyler Feldman – LivFree event with Little League – June
5. Christopher Gombos – BMX Nationals layout & Lap-A-Thon – July
6. Barnum Foundation for Life – Annual Softball Tournament

Acceptance of Minutes

Correspondence - Attached

Old Business

New Business

Superintendent's Report

Division Reports

Any other business that might rightly come before the Commission

Adjournment

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Clerk, Abigail Relkin at abigailrelkin@gmail.com

Correspondence

Alison Henderson

I am inquiring about the current age policy for our travel camps here in town. My son is currently 12 and was denied access to a week of travel camp due to the fact that he will be 13 at the time camp starts. Current policy is that travel camp is only for 10-12 year olds.

My question is why is this an age based policy rather than a grade based policy? This is resulting in children who are in the same grade being denied either on the front end (when they aren't 10 yet) or the back end (when they turn 13 earlier in the year) access to participate in our amazing town camps with their classmates. Is there any chance we can take a deeper dive into this policy? The grade level is a requirement when registering for the online parks and rec registration system and as far as I can tell winter sports are also based on grade level (basketball grade k-1, 2-3, etc.) TYA Junior is also grade based. Why the change for summer travel camps? Is it possible for a change?

I appreciate your time and consideration with this matter.

Kathryn Briganti

I am trying to sign my 4th grader up with a group of friends and family. He is unable to join the summer camp program because the cutoff date does not correlate with the grade-level/school requirements. This means that children in the same grade levels are prohibited from being in the same summer programs together.

After consulting with other community members, this seems to be a challenge in enjoying our town programs. Are you able to help?

Caroline Minella

Dear Ms. Wilpiszeski,

I am writing to express my disappointment with the sudden decision to cancel playoff games and the remainder of the basketball season abruptly and without notice.

I've been advocating for the past 2 years to actually ADD back open play time for basketball, which we had for years, prior to 2020, which ran seamlessly and was enjoyed by many. Now we can't even complete a full season of Rec basketball, which we all actually paid for?

It’s frustrating when the kids lose out on game time due to logistics, especially after all the hard work they’ve put in.

We as tax payers and parents paid for our kids to play in the league and this is not fair to them or the volunteers who have donated their time to train and coach the kids.

I do hope that the rec department can strategize and come up with a solution so that 2 more additional playoff games can be played to complete the season.

Also, looking forward to a solution for open rec basketball for Winter 2026-2027.

I attached my previous email below to be include for this Mondays Parks and Rec meeting in support of bringing back Open Rec and hopefully a solution can be made as well for this seasons current playoff game schedule.

Jalena Brown

Noreen, the change to not run playoffs as part of the basketball season is the first I hear; I have been coaching this league for 10 years. That decision has not been communicated to coaches and as a result to families and kids. If you change the structure of the program, the town owes it to participants to clearly communicate what to expect. The families nor the boys were aware that playoffs have been removed from the program. That sounds like a decision that is made in vacuum as it was convenient for the Rec department. Last years season ran through March 12 and concluded with playoffs. Every team has been included in the playoff and eliminated as games were won/lost.

On behalf of all the boys I coach and their families, I would like to request that the rec department finds the way for the season to be finished the right way.

Artie Weissman

I was told by Noreen to email you about an pickleball issue that has not been resolved since last year.

Last April (before pickleball court reservations were allowed) I came down to play pickleball. I got to the court the same time that a group of players (who I have known, and played with over the last 4 years) got there. I was told that I can't play with them because I was not part of their group. I felt this was not right, since the

group could not reserve any court until May. To my estimation, it should be open play. See the ruling below from the Parks & Rec website:

> **What if I see a court is open?**
> Any court unoccupied/unreserved, at any given time is available for use by residents free of charge on a first come, first served basis. We ask that all players limit their play to 90 minutes.

Do you agree?

Meeting Minutes
Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting - Monday, **February 9,** 2025

Present: Kevin Bellows – Chairman, Mike Travisano, Nancy Walsh, Jonathan O'Brien, Rodney Arganese, Debra Kroszner
Also Present: Abigail Relkin – Clerk, Steve Chapman - Park Ranger
Absent: Bruce Pine

Call to Order at 7:10 PM

Make a motion for public comment off the floor.
Motion by R. Arganese, 2nd by J. O'Briend
Unanimous Vote

Public Comment

1. William Seskey – Harwood Terrace – Gunther Pond has been dredged and the bench and "Do Not Feed the Wildlife" signs have not been replaced. This is going back a number of years (2021), and we would like to see these items back in place. Many people like to enjoy this park and these items would be
    Question: K. Bellows – Do you know whether the sign and bench were destroyed? Or intentionally removed?
        Response: I'm not sure but the dredging has made a big difference.

2. Kristofer Kelso – All Breed Dog Show – August 22-23 – Absent

Return to Public Meeting

Acceptance of Minutes

Motion to approve December Meeting Minutes
Motion by D. Kroszner, 2nd by J. O'Brien, Unanimous Vote

Correspondence - None

Old Business

Open Recreation: K. Bellows – There is a lot of support for having an "Open Rec" time. There was a survey sent out for more information. Based on our insurance, there cannot be use an "open rec" – it would need to be official (with potential fees) through the Recreation Department.

Question: J. O'Brien - Do we know what changed since "Open Rec" was available in town?

Response: R. Arganese – Just before 2020 you could show up, show your license/sign in and join.

Comment: Park Ranger – There were "supervisors" that were available during the "Open Rec" times. The Rangers would check in during these times and if necessary, PD would be called. There was no fee at one point.

Response: K. Bellows – We've never dealt with this as a commission, so this is new to us.

Beaches Park: K. Bellows – has there been any issue recently? Has there been any discussion on the signage that was mentioned during our last meeting?

Comment: S. Chapman – There have not been many issues any issues raised. Signs may be helpful but there are so many walkable entrances and some may come with ATVs or snow mobiles. Maybe cameras and signage will help to deter the issues. Closing it off could be an issue (and people do not necessarily want it closed off because it's a cut through), but it is a park road versus a town road.

Question: D. Kroszner – Do we know if signage is in progress?

Response: K. Bellows – I didn't get a chance to ask today but will find out.

5K Trail Run Request: K. Bellows – This request came through a few months ago. We asked Gaby L to speak with insurance, EMS, etc and have not heard back since. It was suggested that she connect with Recreation and Parks Superintendent has not heard an update as of yet. D. Paris is concerned about the safety of the trails. It looks as though it would start in the lot, around the lake and follow up to beach park road, then come back through another trail.

Response: S. Chapman – I'm trying to visualize. When we do things like the Sun Run, there are usually a number of people involved in keeping everyone safe along the trails, EMS stationed, police presence. We would need to

ensure that no one enters or leaves the parks when the running is happening for safety reasons. Running on natural trails can also be a concern.

New Business

- Field Use During Hillcrest Rebuild: R. Arganese – As far as Hillcrest being rebuilt and the fields that will be out of service – How are we going to provide access to all of the user groups in town that use these fields?
    Response: K. Bellows – Right now, space is a problem and we have use of all of our fields. The responsibility will fall on Parks and Recreation as well as the Board of Education.
    Response: S. Chapman – I'm not aware of this right now D. Paris and Kyle have been working on these logistics.
    Response: N. Walsh – D. Paris did mention this in the November meeting, and it doesn't seem that right now there is a plan.
        Comment: D. Kroszner – Maybe sending something proactively for these tournaments or special groups that want to come in – we send something saying it may not be possible.
- Gunther Pond
    Motion to "return things as they were" by replacing the bench and wildlife sign.
    Motion by R. Arganese, 2nd by M. Travisano, Unanimous Vote

Superintendent's Report – Emailed Out

Question: K. Bellows - How's the new place? How's manpower?
    Response: We haven't moved in yet, but they want us in place before the springtime. We will be putting an ad out soon as we have a few people leaving that we will need to replace. We want to make sure we have enough manpower for special events.
Question: N. Walsh – There was something about grass damaged at Beaches in the report?
    Response: Yes, it was in the area by the bathrooms where they had re-seeded. I don't think the damage was very significant because of snow, but we won't know until spring. I'm not sure if anyone has checked the cameras.
Comment: K. Bellows – I was surprised with the trees being cut down.
    Response: Even with the police being involved, we were unable to figure out who exactly cut the trees down. Luckily the tree went to use in the Ranger Station and was not waster.

Division Reports – Emailed Out

Any other business that might rightly come before the Commission - None

Motion to Adjourn
Motion by M. Travisano, 2nd by J. O'Brien, Unanimous Vote

Adjournment at 7:51 PM

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Clerk, Abigail Relkin at abigailrelkin@gmail.com.

RECREATION REPORT

March 2026

Winter weather affected the majority of our February programs, but we were able to reschedule most basketball leagues and various classes. All Basketball Leagues are ending in early-mid March. Partial refunds will be issued to the 10-12B League that was impacted the most with 25% of games canceled. Registration for Trumbull Parks & Recreation Summer Programs began on March 2nd. Within the first DAY of registration, we already have over 700 registrations for various camps, swim lessons, and spring programs. New sessions of Food explorers, tennis lessons, karate, pickleball, yoga, and more start mind-March through early-May. Registration for TYA Summer Musical Theater programs will begin on or around early April.

As in previous years, we will be holding Swim Lessons at Tashua Knolls Pool and our Playground Camps will continue to visit Indian Ledge Park and Tashua Knolls Pool for water days. Additionally, Junior Camp will be held at the Beach Memorial Park Sprinkler Park on Fridays.

We are NOW HIRING for lifeguards, gate monitors, and camp counselors. Applicants must apply through HR by using the online portal found on the town website by March 13.

Other:

- Office closed April 3
- Eggstravaganza: March 28, 11am @ Indian Ledge Park
- Trumbull Farmers' Market begins on June 4 and runs through October 15.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Report February-March 2026

Parks and Recreation staff have been focused on addressing snow and ice at Town buildings, parks and sidewalks. When not addressing the snow and ice, staff have been engaged in pruning the orchard at Abraham Nichols Park, cleaning and reorganizing town, parks and building maintenance spaces.

Town of Trumbull
Parks and Recreation
Ranger Division

Parks and Recreation Commission
Ranger Division February 2026 Report

Commissioners,

In February, Rangers observed and took **9** reports. At Twin Brooks, Rangers found a cell phone, assisted a resident with help finding keys and and found vehicle tracks on the Brock Street circle. At Unity a dog was off leash, Park rules explained and owner complied. At Old Mine, Rangers discovered broken glass that may have been a result of a broken car window. At Katz Pond, remnants of a fire was found on the ice. At Pricilla Place, a Ranger assisted with a medical issue and at Indian Ledge assistance was given to TPD on a gate issue.

There were **27** parking violations issued, **8** written parking warnings and **0** Infraction

Parking Violations by park		Written Parking Warnings
Twin Brooks	20	06
Old Mine	03	02
Indian Ledge	04	00
Island Brook	00	00
Unity	00	00
Beach	00	00
Nothnagle	00	00
Tashua Knolls	00	00
Rails to Trails	00	00

Total Year Violations **45** Written Parking Warnings **13** Infraction Warnings **2**

Seversl Rangers received training in Opiod Emeregency and Naloxone Administration

Respectfully Submitted
Steven Chapman, Chief Park Ranger