



RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

October 8, 2025

3:15 PM

Room 9, Acton Town Hall
472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

Present: Thom Begin (TB), Assistant Town Manager; Jeff Bergart (JB), Commissioner; Mike Collins (MC), Recreation Program Manager; David Martin (DM), Select Board Liaison; Steve Trimble (ST), Clerk; Joe Will (JW), Chair

Absent: none

Public Attendees: Fred Leffler, Finance Committee

JW opened the meeting at 3:17 PM.

1. Review of May 7th & September 9th minutes.
ST will send out a last set for comment and then post with the Clerk.
2. Residents' Concerns: none raised
3. Recreation staffing update
 - a) TB noted that after reviewing staffing they identified ways to improve and plan to hire:
 - i. Recreation Registrar hours revised down from 24 to 18 hours per week. Three days per week to manage invoices, payroll, etc. The first round of interviews was completed.
 - ii. Facilities Manager full-time: still visioning.
4. Reports:
 - a) Fall events and programs
MC noted the last Event, MonsterBash on October 17th from 6 – 8 PM at the NARA stage. JB and JW may assist. Municipal Monthly now has links for Business Boost, Council on Aging and Recreation.
Programs: MC noted that ultimate frisbee, soccer, tennis, yoga, and other hybrid classes as well as candle making all lining up for the Fall and Winter schedule.
 - a) Winter events and programming
MC noted: See above
 - b) Field and facilities usage
Facilities rentals continue until the end of the season. Camp Acton had a successful summer. NARA closes around Thanksgiving.
 - c) Operations at NARA: See above.
 - d) Current Community Preservation Act (CPA) Projects
 - i. Jones Field Shade Structure was scheduled a week ago but delayed to later in the month with an October 28th target. Will leave up cloth briefly.
 - ii. Acton Community Dog Park

Per TB, Onyx stated the remaining work for pump station is out of the way, so Woodall can mobilize with a schedule to be submitted next week, initially clearing the wooded area noted. In last two weeks the Acton Dog Park Committee (ADPC) met with WDA Assoc. in Westborough, and Woodall, to review site clearing and determined Woodall can oversee the work. Woodall submitted plans to WDA and will obtain the materials. He noted the sewer extension is wrapping up and Dog Park construction will commence this Fall, completing in the Spring.

iii. Disc Golf Course

TB will be meeting with the Conservation Commission in October to discuss phase two. In the interim we <??? not clear who “they” are> are moving ahead with NE Disc Golf Associates on the design plan. TB is also meeting with Conservation and Land Stewards on the existing and potential future build out. Acton resident Adam Nolde (New England Mountain Bike Association) would be a good contact for TB.

e) Rail Trails

JB asked about the two bike stands. MC said they had not been moved to the refreshment stand suggested by JB. JB cut ivy off the fence for visibility on Rex Lumber to improve sightlines for safety. JB worked with Corey and the Acton Tree Warden (2 trees removed) and Police Officer Jordan, and in the process uncovered a fire hydrant.

5. New Business

2026 CPA Proposal(s): NARA Playground is still pending.

6. Add the Elm Street pickleball courts to the November 5th Agenda

Elm street court problem: The group “Open Pickleball” disregards the Town’s court usage policy — scheduling and overriding the town schedule with their own and attempting to manage Marcus Lewis pickleball.

7. Evaluate Meeting

JW Motions to adjourn at 5:50 PM; ST seconds; all in favor.

Upcoming Recreation Commission Meetings

Date	Time	Location
November 5, 2025	3:00 PM	Acton Town Hall Room 9
December 3, 2025	3:00 PM	Acton Town Hall Room 9
January 7, 2025	3:00 PM	Acton Town Hall Room 9 Zoom