SUFFIELD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
November 10, 2026

The Suffield Parks & Recreation Commission held a special meeting on Wednesday, November 10, 2026, at the Senior & Community Center, 145 Bridge Street, Suffield, CT. Zoom was also available for those not able to attend in person.

RECEIVED
By Erica Boucher at 11:09 am, Nov 18, 2026

ATTENDANCE:.....Bill Boucher, Vice Chairman
.....Andrew Joly
.....Stephen Marchillo
.....David Rusnock
.....Chad Lemmens

ABSENT: .....Brian Casinghino, Chairman
.....Jackie Guzie
.....Sam Lombardo
.....Christopher Parker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:.....Peter Leclerc, Director

Bill chaired the meeting for Brian. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

MINUTES: Dave made a motion to accept the minutes. Chad seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PROGRAM REPORTS: Fall soccer has one more week to go. We partnered with a local photographer, Rob Faber, and he had some new options for families. The feedback was very good.

Dan has listed the basketball registrations through November 4. Next month he will have a side-by-side comparison of registrations with other years.

Donna and Dan held a Halloween Party at the Senior Center and it was packed – over 150 people. We had new families that attended and for some of them, it was their first interaction with Parks & Rec. It a fun time for all.

Donna reported on a new program, Let Grow. Donna is partnering with a person that helps run Sustainable Suffield. They have a connection to young families. It is an independent outdoor play program, but we help organize it. It has grown and is very successful.

We had another successful Open Mike Night event. Bethany Sullivan, assistant at the Senior Center, helped with this along with our entire Parks & Rec staff and some seniors. There were a variety of people and acts. It was packed and everyone had a great time.

Dave made a motion to accept the program reports as presented. Andy seconded and all voted yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Suffield Alight and Holiday Market: The event will be held on December 12th, but we will need some help for set up on the 10th and 11th. Hopefully the weather will cooperate, and it won't be as cold as last year. The real heroes come in at the end of the event for the breakdown crew. Peter said he has heard from people, and they are excited about it.

Youth Parks & Recreation Commission: Peter said that this was on the agenda last month and he was looking for feedback from the commission. He has reached out to the principals, but they are busy and he hasn't had much feedback. He is looking for representatives from McAlister, Middle school and the high school with two or three from each school. This is like an ad hoc group with the younger ones having older ones as mentors.

This will show them how to do an event or program and how to participate in government. They will learn how to interact with the community and get permits, interact with the fire department, police and have an introduction on how things work.

Bill asked when this will start and Peter said next spring or fall.

NEW BUSINESS:

2027 Meeting Dates: Bill reviewed the dates for the up coming 2027 meetings which will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

January 13	June 9
February 10	August 11
March 10	September 8
April 14	October 13
May 12	November 10
	December 8

Dave made a motion to accept the meeting dates as presented. Chad seconded. All voted yes.

Bill said these have to be presented to the Town Clerk. Peter said he will send this in with the minutes.

NRPA Conference: Peter said he attended the National Recreation & Parks Association Conference the last week of October. It was the first time, to his knowledge, that anyone from the department has attended. We have a great Connecticut conference, but Philadelphia is huge, it encompasses 3 buildings. The vendors have enough space to erect full replicas of their products and playgrounds. The conference is different from ours, but he was able to find some things that would benefit our community. There is a new software product that he found at the conference, we need to replace the one we have as it is antiquated. The benefits of attending conferences were discussed.

CRPA Board of Directors: Donna and Dan have been involved with subcommittees. Peter said he has been on the Board of Directors for the pass 6 years and at the recent election, he was voted in as President-Elect for the State Board. In 2 years, he will take over as president of the association. Bill congratulated him on the election. Peter discussed what the group does and how they interact with different associations and communities.

Senior and Community Center Rentals: Peter said this came about when they started to look for banquet facilities for our events. The cost of rentals is high. Peter said part of the Capital Expenditures money from last year was used for the purchase of banquet tables, chairs, linens, and a washer and dryer. We already have a

baby shower booked and that will be in December. This room can hold 90 people, and the building can hold up to 300. We will have preferred caterers who are Suffield businesses for the renters to choose from. In the future we will have the option of using our chef, who is excellent. Bill asked how it will be advertised and Peter said it will be on our social media outlets, emails, town page and our page.

Other: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Scheitlin, recording secretary for
Sam Lombardo, Clerk

These minutes are not official until accepted at subsequent meeting.