

9/8/25

**Called to order by:** Becky Elsmann at 6:25pm

**Reading of prior minutes:** Approved by: Becky   Seconded by: Beverly

### **Welcome new member**

**Sybilla Pettingill**

We now have 4 active members - Beverly Parsons, Becky Elsmann, and Dana Dudley. Bailey has not resigned her position.

**250 year celebration heading up - Loraine Parsons**

**July 4, 2026 - running rain or shine - 10 am to 4 pm**

Loraine would like the events to be free for all

Loraine offered the historical society the vending - since they've always done it and they get the proceeds. Lunch at the historical society -

Susan Goulet has been asked to head up the town hall activities - Becky texted her to confirm if she is planning on heading up the hall activities - Loraine will speak with her.

- crafts - contact people to teach these crafts (basket weaving, painting, etc)
- Historical information

Parade from Bees down Tucker Road to the Town Hall at 10 am - ribbons afterward  
Veteran monument dedication

### **Recreation Committee will have the ball field (12 (1) - 4)**

We will have a meeting in January - at that time let Loraine know what we need.

- We will let Loraine know what activities
- Participation ribbons (1st - 3rd ribbons) - how many do we need - for the parade

We will have a meeting in January - at that time let Loraine know what we need.

Maybe work with Dina Thoma to do a fund raiser for supplies

Evening meal?

Snacks/drinks for participants during the day

Spreadsheet for possible volunteers

[Survey Results 2025](#)

### **Ideas**

- Port a potti - Buckfield used it for teams - could we extend that contract and pay a portion
- Pig scramble
- Petting zoo ( Sybilla - contacting someone about steers, Bailey - will have her goats at her home, Dana - former student
- Corn Hole
- Softball
- Horseshoes
- Field day activities: Noodle races, sack races, water balloons, face painting, pick a duck,
- Need tent(s) - Dina - Loraine said she'd need 3

### Old Business

- Sale of discounted tickets - how many were sold?
- Hunter's Safety Wed 10/15 6 - 8 pm and Sat 10/18 8am - 4 pm
  - **Wed** - Sybilla - Dana help Sybilla set up; **Sat**: Dana 8 - 12; Becky 12; Beverly 2)
- Hunter's / Social Breakfast
  - 11/1 4:30 - 10:00
  - 11/15
- Bob Tift & Lou - won lobster -
  - Lennie - donated pots of beans to lobster
- Brandon McNeil and Peggy Matthew are owed October dinner

### New Business

- Taco Bar 10/18 ( prep during day when here w/ hunters safety)
  - Dinner 5:30 - 7:30
  - Karaoke and game until 9:30
- Wreath Making/Gnome making 11/29 10 - 2 -Thanksgiving Weekend - Activity/Fund Raiser
  - Get the hall the night before to prep the boughs 11/28 5 -7
  - Hartford news
    - Looking for donations of
      - Wire hangers
      - Ribbon
      - Pine cones
      - Donation of pine, fir or cedar branches
      - Wire
    - Bring boughs, santa hat, wire, ribbon
  - Wreaths/ Gnome Sprays
  - Hot cocoa and cookies (sell)

**Hartford Newsletter** - Dana write up and have Sybilla proof

Activities in order of date

Make advertisement for Taco Bar

Next meeting 10/13/25 at 6:30 moved to 10/20 at 6:30 due to Columbus

**Rereading of today's minutes** Motion by: Becky Seconded by: Beverly

Dana motioned to adjourn at 8:08 Seconded by Beverly

8/12/25 - meeting cancelled

Becky and Beverly met

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**7/14/25**

**Meeting called to order Becky and Dana present**

**Becky set up an email for the rec committee and ME RECREATION**

**: [harfordMEREc@gmail.com](mailto:harfordMEREc@gmail.com)**

**Password: rec4fun!**

**Becky: Ordered and left tickets with town office for Yorks wild Kingdom, Aquaboggin, Funtown/ splash town**

Swimming- 47 kids - separate line item in budget.

Dinner this Saturday -

**start at 3**

**Bring games - cards, cribbage**

**bring projector screen leave with Becky**

**Lobster dinner 8/9/25**

**Prices for Larochelle - "Always fresh"**

**Lobster 8.99 per 1 lb; 1.5 pound \$11:50**

**Pre-order \$10.00 deposit /remainder due that evening. A note that there will not be refunds / money forfeited for now show.**

**Dinner price \$20.00 / only cooked lobster \$15.00.**

**Meal is lobster corn and veggie ( potato, coleslaw)**

**Have some burgers on the side- 2lbs with 8 pack buns**

**Voted and seconded 2 free lobster dinners as door prize and game prize.- given at Karaoke July 19th; at Lobster - dinner certificates for 10/18/25.**

**Moved August meeting from Monday the 11th to Tuesday the 12th. Dana zooming in.**

**Can't meet on 12th, special election. Dana to zoom in at 5:15 Becky at town office.**

**Dana to think about and organize beach day for August.**

**Becky to check on a date for Hunter's safety and Hunter's breakfast.**

**Adjourned 5:56.**

**6/9/25**

Becky and Dana present. Becky made a motion to read and approve minutes.

Minutes read, motion to approve made and seconded. Minutes approved.

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Set up display and made a poster to ask people to complete our Recreation survey.

Lake Anasagunticook - Becky will reach out to see if the Canton committee would like us to connect and work collaboratively.

Becky is going to request 25 discounted tickets for Aquaboggins, Fun Town / Splashtown, York's Wild Kingdom. We will ask the town office to sell them. We will do publicity. We will charge \$1 over our costs and have that put in the rec reserve fund.

**July 19th** Karaoke, pasta dinner, cornhole - Dana make a flyer Suggested donation \$12/person

5:00 pm. Dinner, board games /cornhole afterwards, 8 pm karaoke- Karaoke, pasta dinner, cornhole - 10 pm

- Dana is to make a canva flyer and get Becky's approval - post that on the rec facebook page and have Lianne put it on town facebook and print several for local bulletin.
- Both bring games to the dinner. - Person at a game table.

Becky wants to do a sign up for a pre-paid steamed lobster at our spaghetti supper.

Becky is going to figure out a sign up for a lobster steam.

Becky wants Hunter Safety, will call and get a date for October, then we will ask for use of the hall.

Hunter's Breakfast - November 1st and 15th for dates.

Dana motioned to adjourn at 6:20

**5/12/25**

Becky made motion to call the meeting to order - Dana Approved

We read the minutes and approved them.

Mission Statement - go home and read a few, bring suggestions to our next meeting to write a mission statement

How do we request the reserve account.

Created a survey to hand out during our voting day June 10th.

[Hartford Recreation Survey](#)

Thank you for Mark Theriault  
Hours for Chloe volunteering

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Swimming - hiring a substitute for Victoria - Dana post swimming flyer and Hartford rec survey on the page - looking for donations for a raffle basket for Lake Anasagunticook  
May 20th after selectboard meeting

Next event - pick a day for beach clean and figure out who can supervise for town and how to coordinate with school - Becky will ask about her school bringing students to clean beach with her.

Ask at selectboard - Tickets for Aquaboggin,

Considering a ticket raffle for Lake Anasagunticook - Becky is willing to look into this and see what she can gathered together.

**July 19th** Karaoke, pasta dinner, cornhole - Dana make a flyer Suggested donation \$10/person

5:00 pm. Dinner, board games /cornhole afterwards, 8 pm karaoke- Karaoke, pasta dinner, cornhole

Dana made a motion to adjourn - Becky seconded it. 6:19

**Sunday 5/4/25**

**Children's craft day - no participants**

**We completed thank you cards for Hunter's safety breakfast**

**4/24/25; 10 am**

Benefits of joining MRPA - professional training, resources & networking, scholarships, grants, board of directors. Membership levels - associate membership - \$45, professional membership - \$60. Member emails once a week. Jan - Dec membership. Summer discount program: average of \$10 less than regular admission. Towns generally offer this and tack on a \$1 fee to keep for our programming. Aquaboggin and Fun Town/Splashtown and York's animal kingdom.

pros/cons - non -profit. municipal falls under non-profit. Non- profit can get sticky, may lose services.

**Zoom Meeting with Robin Cogger** - Maine Recreation and Park Association (MRPA)

In attendance - Becky and Dana

**Build the committee (diversity - parent, retiree, high school student) - mission statement**

- build community- create a brief survey - would you like to be involved and what would you like to see. Ready with survey at the voting day, fun table cloth, balloons.

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Hunter's breakfast successful - why not July 4th breakfast? - Build on what the community is responding to.

Income going to town currently - need to set up accounts for fiscal year 2025 -2026.  
Make programs self supporting ie: Hunter's breakfast

Town of York - enterprise funding - charge a fee to cover expenses. Left over fees stayed in the enterprise account. York had double size in summer - invite guests and residents to celebrate with us.

Children's programming - tapped into local teachers - ran a youth lego day. Art/music teachers etc - incredible resources in the community. Game nights.

Think about seasonal programming - Lewiston just did plant propagation for spring - crazy successful.

\*\*\*Get our business or commercial community to support / sponsor events. Careful with winery and children's programming. Work with existing community facilities - schools, library, lake association, historical society.  
High school athletes to help host a soccer night, etc.

Median age - 64 in Hartford.

Government structure to accept donations/ sponsorships.

Lee Holman - Friday dinners once a month, Polly - food bank

4/7/25

In attendance - Dana, Becky

Becky called the meeting to order, I seconded the motion.

**Next Several Meetings - May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, August 11**

August 10, 2025 is Lake Day -

Becky has been in touch with MRPA (Maine recreation and park association) membership person - Robin Cogger - Becky sent an email suggesting these times that we might be able to meet with her/. Tuesday 15th at 4:30, Tues 22 - Thur 24 before noon via zoom/google meets

Be sure to share swim flyer and information - Swim lesson dates July 7th - July 18th  
Registration is June 7th or June 21 at the town office. Shared with Lennie and Lianne

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Becky has joined the comprehensive plan and is being accepted to that committee.

**Sunday 4/13/25 - Craft / recreation activity 2:00 - 3:30**

**2:00 - 2:15**

**Make an attendance sheet (Becky) - email for future activities - emergency number if needed**

**Games -**

**Dana print find someone boards pens/ pencils**

**Do you have questions**

**Can you remember names in a circle**

**2: 15 - 2:45 Planting - small pots - figure out how many kid once we have attendance**

**2:45 - 3:00 Refreshments**

**Wash hands bathroom - popcorn and juice**

**3:05 - 3:30 Movie and coloring sheets - Dana**

**Projector**

**Dana - games, coloring sheets, little pots, popcorn**

**Becky - soil, juice, water, projector, sign in sheet**

Becky's daughter in law looking to join our committee - Ariana Elsmann this summer. Dana has reached out to Cindy McNeal.

When we have a quorum - write a letter to the town clerk & selectboard to clarify current balance in the recreation account and how to appropriate and raise funds that can be used for activities. Ask for a written response to our queries.

At some point add Nov 1, 2025 - hunter's breakfast. One date, two dates? Hours?  
Sunday beach days - consider accommodations for beach parking/access/payment  
Dana made a motion to adjourn - Becky seconded 6:22

**3/11/25**

In attendance: Becky, Bailey and Dana

Becky called the meeting to order.

Becky made a motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Bailey seconded and all approved.

Discussion regarding membership: we need more members. This would help us with activities, planning and quorum numbers.

Check with Lianne regarding necessary verbage for us posting on our facebook page. Also, can we share our facebook link with the town office and Hartford happenings for publication?

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Set dates for upcoming events:

Request that selectboard approve all upcoming dates.

Sun April 13 - Planting Day

Sun May 4 - Craft for mothers day / outdoor hike

June 14th - Karaoke/ Anniversary of Hartford 252 years old early afternoon - families; evening adult karaoke - [Town Meeting can't work - pick a new date and get back to select people.](#)

July 7th - July 18th - Swimming - afternoon

July 19 - Adult Karaoke

August 24 - Sunday afternoon at the beach

September 7 - Beach Day/ Outdoor activity - weather dependent

October 12 - Indigenous Peoples Day (reach out to a professional) / Apple pressing (Becky has this equip)

October 18 - Karaoke 7 -11 pm

November 8 - Karaoke 7 - 11 pm

November 9 - Fall Activity - town hall - movie - Charlie Brown

December 6 - Connie - Toy give away ?

December 13 - Karaoke 7 - 11pm

Hartford Happenings - Dana write a quick paragraph asking for members and posting a note about upcoming events.

We are going to have a once a month meeting at the town hall open to the public. We will offer second google meets meeting to approve minutes and business so that it gets to the selectboard in a timely fashion.

Check with Canton, Sumner, Buckfield regarding budget requests for a donation toward swimming lessons. Becky will call Buckfield, Dana will call Canton, Bailey will call Sumner.

Becky is calling Maine Parks and Recreation to check on discounted tickets. Look into joining that organization so that we can get discounted tickets for our community.

Next meeting date: April 7th 5:15 at town hall.

Reread and approved today's minutes.

Bailey made a motion to approve, Becky seconded the motion, all approved.

2/6/25

- Conference call - Becky and Bailey; Dana at Town Officee
- Minutes read and approved
- Dana will reach out to Lennie about the Silver Sneakers
- Change meeting dates to Mondays at 5:15 at the town hall
- March 16th St Patrick's Day Craft Hour 2 - 3:30 p.m.

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- Drinks and snack - Bailey will pick up drink at Cosco; Dana will get some individually wrapped snack; Dana will get coloring pages to give to town office to print off- oriental trading craft - movie short while we do crafts and have a snack
- Plan for 20 - 25
- Craft
- Canva Doc Dana - send to Bailey
- April - Planting day on April 13?
  - Decorate toilet paper roll with acrylic paints and/or byop - bring your own pot
  - Soil
  - Seeds - Pea seeds easier to hold; radishes, - mix of seeds
- Canton Lake Association - find out what day they did their lake day
  - Ticket raffle
    - Baked goods basket, local crafts/artisans donate an item
    - Donation letter developed this spring
- Next meeting Tuesday March 11 - 5:15 - (Dana has a prior commitment for March 10th)

1/9/25

- Conference call
- Call to order and read previous minutes - accepted
- Lennie Eichmann
  - What I wanted to say was that I'd like to have **Silver Sneakers** classes at the town hall if the Rec Committee would sponsor. We would need to be able to project from my laptop to the pull down screen and would need to know what types of classes people would find beneficial. I could put something in the Hartford News to generate interest. Our next issue comes out early February. Thank you.
    - How often?
    - Open enrollment? /sign up?
    - Who will open/run/close town hall?
    - Insurances ?
    - Does a rec committee member need to be there?
    - Do you (Linnie) want to join the rec committee?
- Valentines - Friday Feb 14 - Movie night ? Craft? (Becky still out of town)
  - Screen
  - TV
  - Can we use a dvd player with what we have
  - Bailey - Charlie Brown Valentines
  - Dana - check out projecting
  - Carnival ball that weekend, basketball playoffs and School Break/vacation
  - We will not pursue this for this year
- March - St. Patricks Day celebration
  - Family activities
- Beach Clean up day - community service - clean up and then food & games on the beach April - May?

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- Next meeting February 6th 5:15 - phone conference; may have impromptu mtg with Lennie via phone to clarify information and needs.
- Ended meeting 5:39 p.m.

12/9/24 Becky, Bailey and I

- Conference call
- Called to order and read previous minutes
- Toy Drive a success - Hall was full to overflowing and we distributed almost all of the toys.
  - Some left over went to South Paris toy give away
  - Kathy Landry and Doreen Maxwell cleaned up on Monday afternoon
- Picnic tables \$1768.85 We would like 2 - 20% discount out of this catalog until end of year however we don't know if the concrete tables qualify
  - Two is ideal, one if we don't have funding, maybe benches
  - We believe there is covid grant money (\$4,000.00) for these tables
  - We need to give the company a delivery address - directly to the beach
    - Can LeAnn help with setting up the account
- Budget for swim lessons - Becky and Bailey recommended
  - Budget \$3,200.00
- Bailey is creating a facebook page for the recreation committee
- We would like request \$1,000.00 for the recreation committee to offer community events.
- We received a donation of a LED projector - we are going to resume movie nights occasionally - we'd like to start with a breakfast for dinner movie night the Friday night at the beginning of February break 2/14/25
- Next meeting date: January 9th at 5:15 - conference call initiated by Dana

11/4/24 in attendance: Bailey, Becky and Dana

- Called to order
- Read and approved previous meeting notes
- Hunter Safety Course was a success - 22 participants 10/19/24
- Hunter Breakfast took place on 11/2/24
  - Worked Friday evening for approximately 3.5hours - 2 HS volunteers Chloe Roldan, Hailey Dorriety
  - Becky came back at 3 am w/ hubby and worked through 10:30 a.m.
  - Help from Cathy L, Kathy L, Steve, Bailey, Becky, Dana, Wes
  - Donations - Canton Potato Guy 50 lbs; Tiltons 20lbs of Bacon; Hiedy - Food City -\$27 jams, juices, ham; Sue G - 2 lbs bacon; The Bucket gave us \$40 cash. Becky spent about \$250 in food, trays etc. Bim donated \$110; Mark \$40, Lianne \$20, Anonymous person gave us bread; Aaron Harvey -eggs and english muffins
- Joy to the Children - Connie had an emergency - she'll email us.
- Comprehensive Plan Committee - we would like to share this position
- Bailey set up a Recreation Face Book page - will add our names when she gets home.

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- Website - Maine Park and Recreation (<https://www.merpa.org/>) - grants for bottle barn / gardens - let's investigate - Bottles - candaid.org
- Lianne - aquatics program 2866.18 wages and withholding
  - \$2,000 budgeted; \$1,135 swim lesson registration; \$200 donation from Hebron Station School
  - $\$2,866.18 - 2000.00 = 866.18$ ;  $866.16 - 200 = 666.16$ ; 666.16
  - \$250.00 revenue in recreation - move to pay the deficit to swim lesson

Next Year

- Ball Field ?
- Garden ?
- Get Thank You cards - to hand write
- January - Community Hill to sled down - find a good hill
- February break - have the kids here for a day/half day
- Have a skating day - rollerdrome / bowling; van to drive people to Portland Mall for families - elderly
- Next meeting 12/9/24 - 5:15
- Motion to adjourn 6:38p.m.

9/16/24 5:15 p.m.

- Approve 8/26/24 meeting notes
- Meet with Connie - Joy to the children 12/ 7/ 24
  - Want this to be the parents, not the kids
  - Need a way to ensure Hartford resident
  - Set up ahead, 4-7PM on 12/6 then 9AM-6PM on 12/7
  - Pink Feather Foundation, but might only be through schools
  - Have people drop donations at the town hall during the rec meeting.
  - Number of tickets = number of big items and they can choose where to put the tickets.
  - 4-5PM on 12/7 come grab all leftovers with no limits
  - Dana bring scissors from classroom
  - 4 wrappers (2 on each side), 1 person to man the premium gifts
- Verified we have coverage for the Parents' Day
- Hunter safety doesn't need anything extra for us.
- Next Meeting November 4th at 5:15PM
- Discussed updated form for Meeting Minutes
- Bottle bin to work on for winter
- Should we create a Rec Committee FaceBook page
  - Probably need Select Board approval
  - Pull together a mailing list

8/26/24 5:15 p.m.

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- Approved previous meetings minutes - 7/22/24
- Read over the MMA documents, given to us by Lianne, regarding adult supervision for events with children
  - If 1 of the 2 adults is background checked is that ok? - We are talking about not all of the rec committee members being present at every activity.
- Parent's afternoon out
  - 4 hour block - Start with a Saturday; 12 - 4 p.m. 9/28/24
  - \$20 for one, \$25 for two, \$30 for 3 or more
  - Registration form - register by 9/25/24
  - [Parents afternoon Out Registration 2024](#)
    - Allergies
    - Phone number
    - Age
    - Email address (optional)
    - Parents names & an emergency back up name
  - Provide a snack
  - Games and coloring/ craft activities
  - Consider high school students to help - earn community service
    - Dana - high school volunteers; is there a facebook page that we can share information with that committee
    - Dana - Canva flyer and email out to Becky and Bailey
      - [https://www.canva.com/design/DAGO\\_9wxOUY/yqFhnGe4Ucw4k2uqlyLDXQ/edit](https://www.canva.com/design/DAGO_9wxOUY/yqFhnGe4Ucw4k2uqlyLDXQ/edit)
  - Ages - Kindergarten and up to 13
  - 20 kids maximum
  - Bailey will create a google doc that we can create a schedule and supplies needed list.
- Hunter's safety course for October? - Becky will make a call to IFW (Inland Fisheries and Wildlife) to see if we can schedule a hunter's safety course.
  - She will check on cost, dates that the hall is available, how many days the course requires
- Wondering about cement picnic tables for the beach; is there money in the beach fund - checked - we propose that we use available funds for a cement picnic table for the beach.

7/22/24 5:00 p.m.

- Becky is willing to be our chairperson; Dana will be secretary
- Reviewed ordinance book guidelines
- Swim lesson registration brought in \$1,070.00 - 35 students swimming
- Sad that we don't have t-ball, softball, baseball anymore
- Put out feelers to see if there are any available coaches or children interested

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- Lake Anasagunticook - Canton is doing their yearly celebration on August 10th - can we connect with them next year to do a joint venture. Can we offer activities at the ball field. Invite GS, Boy Scouts, 4H, Farmers market folks
  - [www.lakeanasagunticook.org](http://www.lakeanasagunticook.org)
- **Look into finding a contra dance caller and set dates for the fall**
- **Many ideas: Belly dancing/ yoga / beach yoga/ stand up paddle board yoga**
- Field Day on Labor Day weekend - is Buckfield still doing their Labor Day weekend- ask questions this year and plan for next year
- **Can we have a bottle bin at the town office to raise funds for recreation**
- **Christmas -**
  - Babysitting for parents to shop - can we legally do this? - fingerprinting - what are stipulations for volunteers; high school kids - volunteer hours
  - Klds night - decorate cookies/ make holiday decorations
  - Age limit -
- Monthly date night for adults - babysitting for kids (ages 3 - 11?) High School kids get service hours
- Connect with Heritage Society to do joint activities
- Sumners Mothers Club - connect to help Easter egg hunt
- Who runs fall craft fair - can we help out/ support/ advertise
- Consider a pie raffle - maybe combined with another activity
- Ice fishing/ Ice skating day
- Connect with Hartford newsletter; Lenny and Arlene to advertise and have town office put events on facebook page
- Bridge the gap - adults and children learning crafts/ skills : knitting, origami, teens teach adults about computers

Next Meeting 8/26/24 5:15 p.m.