



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

Recreation Commission

141 Bassett Lane, Hyannis, MA 02601

RECREATION COMMISSION

November 3, 2025

I. PRELIMINARIES

A. **Call To Order** by Rene King, Chair, at 5:30 PM

1. Notice of Recording: Please note that this meeting is being recorded and will be replayed via Xfinity Channel 8 or high-definition Channel 1072. It may also be accessed via the Government Access Channel live video on demand archives on the Town of Barnstable's website:

<https://streaming85.townofbarnstable.us/CablecastPublicSite/show/10851?channel=1>

B. **Roll Call**

1. Commissioners' Present: Rene King, Tony Lapolla, Tim Lus, Brendan Burke, and Christina Carrington
2. **Also Present:** John Gleason- Director of Recreation

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Welcomed new recreation commissioner, Christina Carrington

B. Call to action-Recreation Commission Opportunity

1. 2024 Recreation Commission Report presented as an example of the Recreation Commission's work

C. Community Preservation Committee appointment update – Rene King

1. Tony Lapolla will be the Recreation Commission's Liaison to this committee
 - a. Vote by the Town Council for an appointment to be held in the month of November

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Barnstable High School Varsity Football Coach – Ross Jatkola**

1. Ross is in his 8th season at Barnstable High School
2. They've won the number 2 seed in their division going into the Massachusetts state tournament
3. The Recreation Commission was asked to encourage community members to attend the Rolling Rally the day before the Thanksgiving Day game
4. Football in general is the most proactive sport that is working on becoming safer year in and year out
 - a. Parents have concerns with concussion numbers
 - b. The evolution in technology of all equipment including helmets and shoulder pads is improving
 - c. How they practice is becoming important to the sport including how they tackle, how they block, and the amount of minutes allowed for full contact in practice which is limited as much as possible
 - d. Teaching the right techniques of tackling and blocking is important to make sure they're doing it the right way, effectively, and safely
 - e. Working year round on the strength and conditioning program to develop strength in the muscles, joints, and tendons to proactively create a safer body so they're physically prepared for the season when the contact arrives
5. Specialization is a big topic of discussion in the strength and conditioning world and the safety world

- a. The injuries that are seen in the professional sports are attributed to overuse because of such specialization
- b. Resurgence of multiple sport athletes is being seen more now
- c. They actively encourage multiple sports on the football team to get more students involved in more activities for many reasons including social and growth as athletes moving in different ways instead of doing the same thing 365 days a year which can wear on them and can become something they don't enjoy anymore

IV. STAFF REPORTS

A. Hyannis Youth and Community Center - Mark Boardley, HYCC Manager

1. Administrative

- a. Winter program registration begins November 5th for residents and November 12th for non-residents
- b. New registration and reservation software change is ongoing, staff training through videos in preparation of the change
- c. New Café Operator – M&G Concessions Inc, The M&G Grill @ HYCC
 - i. Hours of operation are 4PM – 7:30 PM Monday-Friday and 8AM – 6PM Saturday and Sunday
- d. HYCC Fee increases was put on the table for discussion – no discussion was had

2. Ice News

- a. First hockey tournament of the year
 - i. Trick or Treat Bowl held October 11th – 13th
 - ii. Staff was trained on the new Sparx Skate Sharpeners and over 50 pairs of skates were sharpened for the tournament
- b. Learn To Skate has 50 participants to date
- c. Rock Nights are back with 120+ children attending at the last two

3. Gym/Youth Center News

- a. SOAR program
 - i. 30 participants to date but still accepting new registrants
 - ii. Open House Friday, November 21, 2025 from 6:00PM – 8:00PM
- b. Holiday Meal Distribution from the Family Table Collaborative
 - i. November 25, 2025 from 4:30PM – 5:30 PM at the Hyannis Youth and Community Center
 - ii. Those in need call 508-348-9777 with name and how many meals you'd like before Monday, November 24, 2025

4. Community Blood Drive being held Monday, December 8, 2025 from 9:40AM–4:00PM

B. Barnstable Recreation – John Gleason, Director of Recreation

1. Administration

- a. Winter Program Registration begins Wednesday, November 5th
- b. The switch to the new MyRec software is in process
- c. Meeting held with windsurfers and kitesurfers about the potential shared use of Kalmus Beach
- d. Met with Marine Environmental Affairs about increasing salaries for Aquatic staff
- e. Met with the Cape and Islands MRPA group

2. Aquatics

- a. COMM Fire recognized our lifeguards for their outstanding efforts performed during an emergency this summer
- b. Thank you letters were sent out to all staff for their hard work and dedication this past summer
- c. Bathrooms were cleaned and closed until next year
- d. JFK Memorial staff finished their season on October 13th
- e. Making the 2026 parking permits available to the public is pending approval by the Town Manager

- f. Equipment is being ordered for next summer's season
 - g. Job descriptions for aquatic staff have been updated and will be submitted to Human Resources
 - h. Met with the Cape and Islands beach managers on October 2nd
 - 3. Recreation Programs
 - a. DPW helped with the take down of the street soccer cage
 - b. The Halloween Monster Mash event was held at the HYCC
 - c. Fall programs are winding down
 - d. Upcoming events include fall dodgeball and the turkey shoot
- C. Youth Commission Update – Daniel Gomes, Chairman
 - 1. Daniel introduced himself and gave an overview of what students and schools the comprise the commission
 - 2. Substance Abuse Forum
 - a. An upcoming event to raise parent awareness regarding substance abuse in the community
 - b. The Hidden In Plain Sight Trailer models a teenager's bedroom and is there for parents to find clues that their child might be using drugs
 - c. To increase parent attendance the commission will be providing food and offering raffle tickets
 - 3. Youth Job Fair Event will be held in March at the Hyannis Youth and Community Center
 - a. Details were provided regarding business, attendees, set up, transportation and
 - 4. Youth Summit

V. LIAISON'S REPORTS

- A. Open Space – Tony Lapolla
 - 1. Committee has created a comprehensive draft
 - 2. The Conservation Preservation Committee meeting which Tony attended had discussion about equity and the committee seems open to where else playgrounds could be placed
- B. Sandy Neck – Rene King
 - 1. Need for another commissioner to step into Rene's slot beginning in January

VI. MATTERS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR

- A. Rene King let commissioners know that periodically they must take the Conflict of Interest training

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

VIII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA ITEMS – To Be Determined

Motion made by Tony Lapolla to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Christina Carrington; VOTE-all in favor. Meeting adjourned 6:45p.m.

NEXT MEETING January 5, 2026