

City of Portsmouth, NH
Recreation Board
Minutes of Meeting of January 21, 2026

Present: Kathie Lynch, Rich Duddy [chair], Kory Sirmaian, Amy Mae Court
Jacki Calli-Pitts, Brinn Sullivan, Todd Henley, Rich Blalock [city council rep], Scott
Chaudoin, Lauren Krans, Patricia Campbell [school board rep]

1. Meeting called to order at the Community Campus at 6:32; quorum established. Rich Duddy introduced Patricia [Tish] Campbell as the School Board representative to the Recreation Board.
2. Minutes: Kathie Lynch moved, 2nd by Rich Blalock to accept the minutes of the December meeting; unanimously approved.
3. Public Comment: none
4. Letters/Communications: Kathie Lynch had asked for a discussion around pickle ball play at Spinnaker Point regarding indoor use schedule, fees for pickle ball play, and processes in place for responding to rude/confrontational actions by users. A recent discussion with staff at Spinnaker around altering open gym hours to reflect open gym times for all activities *except* pickle ball and open gym times for pickle ball revealed that some pickle ball users can display difficult behaviors regarding the use of the gym for indoor pickle ball. A wide-ranging discussion about facility usage and expectations of users ensued with a recommendation that a small group of Board members research codes of conduct/use at the Library and other recreation facilities [e.g., YMCA] and draft a code to be discussed by the Board at its next meeting. This would be similar to the code at the skatepark. Kathie Lynch and Jacki Calli-Pitts will work on this draft with input from Lauren Krans for a report back at the February meeting of the Board.
5. Old/Unfinished Business:
 - a. Skateboard Park survey: Amy-Mae Court summarized the results of the survey conducted in the fall. A theme in the responses was a request for extending lighting during the shoulder months of November/December and March/April. Todd explained that extending hours is a budgetary issue and with upcoming budget challenges adding hours may be difficult. Motion by Kathie Lynch, 2nd by Rich Blalock to recommend to Todd that the use of lights at the skatepark be altered as the department sees fit for best use of the park after dark, passed unanimously.
 - b. New Turf Field: Todd reported that early and extended wintry weather has delayed work in the 2nd turf field. The expectation is for the field to be ready for use by Memorial Day.
6. New Business:
 - a. Brinn shared the upcoming events including indoor mini-golf, Valentine Day dance, and Tree of Love and invited Board members to help volunteer at these events.

- b. The spring/summer 2026 program brochure was shared including upcoming sign-ups for summer programs.
 - c. Elections for Recreation Board officers: Motion by Jacki-Calli Pitts, 2nd Kathie Lynch to re-elect the current officers; passed unanimously.
 - d. Brinn and Rich Duddy shared the success of Todd in applying and completing competitive grants that have benefited the department especially the recently completed grant for improvements to the Community Campus.
7. Adjourn: Motion by Kathie Lynch, 2nd Rich Blalock to adjourn at 7:45; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathie Lynch
Secretary