

HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
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HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF 9/8/2025

Rec Director: Dan Conte

Attendance: Ed, Dewey, Sara, Greg, Ann, Rhonda

Sports Association – Kevin Sullivan

Council – Clemente Osso, John Rucco

Public – Anthony DeRosa

Ed called the meeting to order at 6:32

Pledge of allegiance

Rec Director Update

1. Dan thanks the DPW for all their hard work getting the fields ready. Soccer was canceled on 9/7 due to the rain. Kevin was concerned since the fields were still wet the next day and wonders if the sprinklers still went on. Discussion of sprinklers with sensors.
2. GW soccer team is practicing at Memorial and playing at Centennial.
3. Football has been using upper Smith and Beechwood for practice. They are looking into getting portable lights. They were also granted permission to play in Montvale at Latrenta field.
4. Hoping to get shovel in the ground of memorial by mid October. There will be a meeting scheduled with the field committee.
5. Beechwood field is looking good, football is seeding every Friday.
6. The recreation committee is looking for a HS representative to join. Ideally a sophomore so they will be around for a few years.
7. Fall programming is off to a good start, looking for an indoor space for Chess since no one signed up for outdoor.
8. Town will support a special needs basketball clinic on 10/5 and put it under the recreation wing. Hoping the program can be back to the high school as a club.
9. Bandshell feedback came back with a price tag of half a million dollars. We are looking for new contractors.
10. Dewey discusses that there are a lot of changes that need to be made to the bandshell and grant money is still available.

11. Community center is scheduled to open around April or May of 2026. Dan did a walkthrough and said it is looking good. Ideas for how it will be used are being thought of. Mentions classes, 50 plus club and a piano being donated. Community pass will be used to sign up for the use of the center.
12. Wrestling still wants to break off from rec. They do have their own insurance.
13. Fall festival is Saturday 9/13. Volunteers from the commission are needed. Dan changed the layout of vendors in the park and the beer garden is near the stage. There will be a pumpkin patch this year and 7 food trucks.
14. Oktoberfest is scheduled for 10/3 and Nikesh's band will play.

Dewey mentions that the sports association should be coming to the meetings

Ed says that summer camp was great. Dan mentioned that there was a survey sent out and results came back as favorable towards the summer camp.

The committee is curious what the amount in the rec trust fund is and what's the amount that should be kept in there. Some of these funds will be needed to furnishing the community center.

Sara asks what do people want in the community center and where are the funds coming from? Council person Melissa Mazza Chiong will be creating a committee to help design the space.

Minutes approved by Greg and Ann

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 by Ed and Ann