

Meeting Minutes

Town of Rowe

Park Commission Meeting

Date of Meeting: Monday, August 4, 2025

Time of Meeting: 5:08 P.M.

Location: Town Hall, Meeting Room #1 and via Zoom

Commissioners Present: Laurie Pike, Arik Olsen, Justine Krumm (Zoom)

Audience of Citizens: Wayne Zavotka (Historical Society)

1. Minutes

A motion was made by Laurie to approve the meeting minutes from June 2, 2025 and July 31, 2025. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

2. Browning Bench Powder Post Beetle Infestation Report

Wayne reported on a powder post beetle infestation in the building. The Historical Society conducts yearly inspections with Orkin. The estimated cost of treatment is \$9,836 and would require a Special Town Meeting for funding. The treatment process requires removal of all items from the building for one week to allow for drying. Arik asked if the town is required to contract with Orkin and suggested obtaining additional quotes. Briel discussed other powder post beetle treatment options and will inspect the building to assess the severity of the infestation.

3. Park Truck and Vandalism Expenses

The Commission is still awaiting the setup of an account with the rental company; it may not be worthwhile this late in the season. Laurie proposed asking the Selectboard to have the highway department truck inspected and repaired prior to being turned over to the Park Department. The cost to replace damaged story walk posts is \$575. A motion was made and approved to pay from the operations budget, with the possibility of a reserve fund transfer at the end of the fiscal year if necessary.

4. Summer Youth Employment and Personnel Policies

Briel presented a draft of employee expectations for Commission review. Justine asked whether Town Counsel should review the document. Arik suggested requiring staff to sign the expectations upon hire. Justine proposed adding DEET/bug spray to the list of PPE, with the understanding that it is the responsibility of staff to provide their own. She also recommended keeping a log of any verbal or written warnings issued to staff.

5. Park Program Updates

The first senior picnic was held and had approximately two dozen attendees. The next picnic is scheduled for August 21. The summer recreation program averaged eight participants. Swimming lessons were successful. A stargazing event is scheduled for September 12–14 and will be advertised in

surrounding towns. D2R2 is scheduled for August 23. Pickleball continues to gain popularity, with participation from residents of neighboring towns.

6. Cultural Council Grant Ideas

Cultural Council grant applications are due in October. Arik suggested repeating the mushroom walk. Other ideas included a program with Tom Ricardi and a bird walk led by Jon Green.

7. Grant Project Updates

The Commission is awaiting notifications regarding WP and MVP grant applications.

8. Unforeseen Business

The bridge project has been completed, with approximately \$350 in materials used (labor not included). Laurie proposed adding an adult weekend attendant position during the beach season. Justine reported on the temporarily missing vernal pool equipment. Trout Unlimited installed water monitoring equipment. The tennis courts are now being locked overnight.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:15 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:19 P.M.