

Franklin Recreation Meeting Minutes* [DRAFT]

September 14, 2026 @ 7pm

Franklin Town Offices and on Zoom

Attendance: Allison Franklin, Dianna Benoit-Kittell and Lissy Bachelder

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:06pm by Allison.

Public Comment

- Tumble Time: someone reached out asking if we put something like this on because Highgate does something. Sadie Newton with the Haston Library is thinking of starting something at the Town Hall the last Saturday of the month.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Moved by Dianna to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Allison. Carried unanimously to accept.

Soccer Coordinator

- Game Scheduling
 - We are the only school that has a coed 5/6 team and it's been hard to schedule games with other towns
- Ref recruitment
 - Not a lot of people are willing and able to ref – left to the coaches or pull parents from the sidelines
 - Reached out to NHS and JNHS students at MVU if any kids would be willing to ref
 - Reached out to Enosburg volunteer coordinator if any kids would be willing to ref
- Supply Order
 - Field Paint was ordered and is down at the fields
 - Food sales: there are no dates that have multiple games happening so the board decided not to pursue this
 - A la carte board tasks: all tasks have been completed
- Coaching update
 - Crossroads update: rain dates may become a problem, parent emails need to be updated on MyRec, older siblings as assistants is very helpful
 - Should have clear guidelines for soccer and basketball – would be helpful for new coaches
- Uniforms

- Took a very long time for the older kids – almost a month, when it usually takes 2 weeks
- Needed to move picture date so younger kids uniforms would come in on time
- If turnaround time is going to take longer, may need to rethink who we use and timing
- 5/6 uniforms look great this year!
- Next year we should close the younger kids earlier

Field Management

- Soccer Field Building payment
 - Moved by Dianna to pay Stacy and Jon Godin \$500 for building the soccer fields. Seconded by Lissy. Carried unanimously to accept.
- Ground plugs
 - Need to look through the shed again for fence ground plugs – Allison found some from the newest fence order but caps are too small.
 - Moved by Dianna to spend up to \$100 on miscellaneous ground plug parts (white sockets and top caps), if none are found in the shed. Seconded by Allison. Carried unanimously to accept.
- Field Lining
 - Thank you, Allison, for lining the fields!
- Weed Control
 - Vinegar mixture has been sprayed on all the mischievous weeds. It's been looking great and has been taking care of the issue quite nicely.
- Dugout Plans
 - Some sponsorship money has come in for dugouts – around \$1,500!
 - Have around \$7,700 in overage from having no Rec Coordinator and LL Reserve money.
 - Lissy will keep talking with her dad about dimensions and costs. Hoping to get softball dugouts (earliest) built this spring.
- Tree trimming and brush
 - Reached out to Jeremy about trimming trees along the driveway. He won't get to it for a couple of weeks.
- Benches are still at the Town Hall – will need to coordinate bringing them down to the fields
- Wetherby's - Dianna will reach out for trash pick up

Treasurer's Report

- Checking: \$29,798.86

- Fund Balance: \$22,665.34
- LL Balance: \$4,101.20
- Bills were reviewed and approved by board members.

Moved by Lissy to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Allison. Carried unanimously to accept.

Grants/Fundraising/Sponsorship

- Sponsorship Updates
 - Banner order – 1 banner needed to be ordered for TDI
 - Uniform Sponsors – 3 for upcoming basketball season
- Community Bag - \$137 will be sent out Jan 2027
- Lake Monsters – waiting on checks
- Due North Fundraiser with Haston Library from 7/12
 - Made \$430 in donations!
- Warner House
 - Will reach out to see if they have any open or closing dates for endowment money so we know when applications need to be sent

Old Business

- Hunter Safety course
 - Everything went well at the August session, and Nate is offering a class through Crossroads for 6th graders during the fall session.
- MVSUD stipend, Crossroad contracts
 - Everything has been signed and submitted. Nothing drastically changed within the contracts.
- Board Recruitment/Event Planning
 - Will need to schedule more emails to get people to volunteer!

New Business

- Eagle Scout Project Signatures
 - Allison signed all the project forms. Liam is going to make the Rec some picnic tables! Thank you, Liam!
- Girls on the Run
 - Allison reached out to Alanya Freeman who would like to coach Girls on the Run through Franklin crossroads. She'd like to hold practices twice a week and would need at least one more volunteer to help out.
- Trunk or Treat
 - We will ask Stephanie if she'd like to coordinate the forest

- Bobbie and Cindy will be near the beginning on the straight away, Scouts will be mixed in throughout, Hannah and friends will be before Jen and Jen Dewing will be in her usual spot in the corner clearing.
 - Will need to buy more solar lights to replace ones that no longer work. Dianna found some purple ones on Amazon.
 - Advertise for more trunks (so far, we have Dianna, Allison, Madison, and the Library). May need to reach out to Ashley Flood and see if she has a list of people who reached out to do trunks last year.
 - If we can't find someone to coordinate the Haunted Forest, we will need to nix that option for this year. We need volunteers/board members to ensure we can offer our events as usual.
- Vendor Fair
 - Ideally, we'd like 11/14 but Town Hall may be booked. If not available, thinking of Sunday, 11/15, parking may become an issue with church being in session.
 - Also thought maybe the school gym (on 11/15) may be an option, if we get 17 vendors like we had last year, we will need more space.
 - Think about bringing up all the Polar Express stuff to keep in the Town Hall.
- Polar Express
 - Franklin United Church is going to charge us for use of their space. May need to think of a secondary location – perhaps the Town Hall.
 - Possible date: 12/20
 - Minimum Volunteers needed to make this event possible: 2 people for tickets, Tim Magnant and friend for wagons, 5 elves, 3 people to tell the story, Haston Library with books, 2 people for parade. Lots of people to help decorate the school and church or town hall.
- Event idea – “Kids Take Over Franklin Rec” - group of kids plan and “run” their own event. Adult supervision would be necessary.
- Schedule meetings post 10/19 - we will schedule those dates at our next meeting.

Executive Session: entered at 10:29pm and left at 10:48pm.

The board talked about employee retention and how to keep everyone happy.

Adjourned at 10:51pm.

Submitted by Lissy Bachelder.

Our next meeting will be held on September 28, 2026, at 7pm in the Franklin Town Offices.

*Minutes are not yet approved by all board members; therefore this remains a draft until the next board meeting.