

Minutes for the August 19, 2026, GPA Board of Director Meeting

Minutes recorded by board secretary Lisa Catanese

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm. A quorum was established. Board of Directors members present were Lisa Catanese, Jim Cropley, Lisa Lowell, Raymond Perugini, Bill Piotroski, Jackie Roy, and Dave Sutherland. Absent were Darby Pollansky (who is on bereavement leave from the Board) and Kevin Ryan. Also present was Laura Young, GPA tax collector.

Audience of Members: None.

Minutes: Minutes from the July 7, 2026, Budget Meeting were approved. Motion by Lisa Lowell, second by Raymond Perugini, unanimously approved.

President's Report: Jim Cropley reported that manholes along Avery Shores have been marked, possibly because the Town is preparing to pave the road. Jim will contact Bill Watkins to inquire. Bartlett Tree Service (from Coventry) is hoping to come to the park next week to assess the health of the trees. Jim also discussed promoting the 75th GPA birthday celebration on August 28, and Lisa Lowell said she and Raymond Perugini have made up small cards and plan to go house to house to deliver them. New signs that are more specific about event are also being printed. The Board discussed ID badges for GPA members to use the beach, and it will be put on the agenda for the Annual Meeting next month.

Tax Collector's Report: Laura Young presented a report showing a 76.87% collection rate. There are 36 newly delinquent accounts, and she will send those property owners an email and also will send out a September 1 reminder bill.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Lowell presented a report that showed a total of \$3,059 has been spent so far this fiscal year (which started June 1) from the total 2026-27 budget of \$24,525. Her report also showed a transfer of \$20,109 on June 29 from the checking account to the Capital Improvements Fund, which now has a balance of \$40,504.15.

Committee Reports:

- **Beach/Beautification:** Dave Sutherland reported that we have done a good job controlling the Japanese knotweed at the beach and part. Jim Cropley will use funds from the beach beautification and improvements budget to paint parking spaces including a pedestrian areas in front of the pavers for beach access by foot.
- **Member Involvement:** Raymond Perugini report that the 75th birthday celebration for the GPA will take place on August 28, and the last full moon paddle will be held on September 26, marking the end of the season's events.
- **Environmental:** Lisa Catanese said the weekly reports regarding water quality at the GPA beach showed that *e. coli* levels remain low. The Board discussed a new form of hydrilla that has been found in the Connecticut River and is very difficult to treat, so the hope is that boats are being checked before being allowed to come into Coventry Lake.
- **Fuel Oil Cooperative:** No report.
- **Paper Roads:** No report.
- **Website:** No report.
- **Welcome to GPA:** Lisa Lowell reported that Karen Burrington continues to deliver welcome baskets to new residents.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Update on filing of GPA bylaws:** Jim Croyley filed the original and updated bylaws with the Town of Coventry. He has certified copies, which will be placed in the lockbox that is kept in the shed at the park. Lisa Catanese will move all GPA documents onto a flash drive and will put it in the lockbox.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Planning for the GPA 75th birthday and ice cream social on August 28:** About 30 burgers and 30 hot dogs remain from Gerald Park Day and will be cooked on the new grill purchased for the GPA with funds from the beach beautification and improvements budget. Jim Croyley will purchase buns. Lisa Lowell will confirm with Teri Norman, who is getting the ice cream, and Jackie Roy will store it in her freezer. The GPA also has or will purchase some toppings, condiments, sodas, etc. All attending the event will receive free water bottles, which were donated to the GPA. Lisa Catanese sent one email to publicize the event and will send a follow-up several days beforehand.
- **Planning for the Annual Meeting on September 10:** The GPA Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, at 6pm at Coventry High School. Pam Croyley has reserved the Lecture Hall. Agenda items will include filling the seats held by Lisa Catanese, Jackie Roy, and Darby Pollansky, whose terms are expiring. Lisa and Jackie said they plan to run for another three-year term, and Lisa said she would contact Darby to ask if she was interested as well. Also on the agenda will be a discussion of having ID tags at the beach.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Date to be decided at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.