

1/8/26 Membership Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 6:42 pm.

The November meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.

Presidents Report

Mike Maznicki began by welcoming those in attendance to the first meeting of 2026, thanking Celeste Garrett and family for providing refreshments and snacks during our meeting break. Mike thanked Wayne Gustafson our volunteer newsletter editor. Mike asked members if any corrections were needed to the November meeting minutes, no corrections were needed.

Secretary Report

27 members and 8 guests were in attendance.

The AMA flying site improvement grant application review was received with recommendations of clarifying dollar amounts. Corrections were made as recommended; the grant application will be automatically submitted February 1st requesting the maximum amount of \$3000. If approved in the springtime we could receive \$100 to \$3000 for our new zero turn mower.

Officer positions for 2026, Tom Munsell of the nominating committee brought no nominations forward and no nominations were made during our November meeting. All current officers have agreed to remain in their positions. A motion was made to approve the election of the following non-contested club officers, President - Mike Maznicki, VP - Buddy Beaudoin, Treasurer - Len Marchese, Secretary - Bill Cranford, Activities director - Peter Tani, Field Supervisor - Bob Viering, Liaison - Ray Murphy. The motion was seconded with majority in favor, none opposed. One vote was cast by myself to confirm the 2026 executive committee officers.

Our next meeting is Thursday February 12th at 6:30pm at the Somers Public Library, 2 Vision Blvd Somers CT.

Treasurers Report

Len Marchese announced 2026 membership renewals are currently 85% with an income of \$13,855 plus Gale Farms \$1000. Dues are due by Friday January 9th post marked after the 9th is considered late and subject to an initiation fee per our By Laws. Len gave the November and December financial report 98% of our yearly budget was spent. Len presented the 2026 operations budget totaling \$14,800 with changes to porta potty and dumpster services now scheduled for May to September. A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2026 budget, majority in favor with none opposed. The 2026 operations budget passed. Len asked if there were any questions, John Palica asked for a copy of the budget, a copy was provided to John during the meeting. Ron Vernier asked if we are still planning to have our October outdoor meeting with the reduced services, Mike Maznicki answered yes, Bob Viering added toilet paper will be replenished as needed while services are suspended. Mike thanked members for renewing early allowing Len to have money in hand to produce a budget.

VP/New Members Report

Buddy Beaudoin announced three visitors submitting applications to join our club, Jeramy and Ben Webb introduced themselves applying for a family membership and Chris Sonsini submitted his application sharing he enjoys flying EDFs. These applicants visited our field during Ola's Frozen Finger Fun Fly event.

Todd Leahey, Sean Kelly, Michael Riley, and Jay Wheeler attended their second meeting and were voted in as new members, welcome.

Activity Director Report

Peter Tani reported on our Christmas party thanking all who volunteered to help bring the event together, 78 people attended. Our first sanctioned event of 2026 happened on New Year's Day, Ola's Frozen Finger Fun Fly produced 15 registered pilots. It was a clear sunny day with a temperature of 18 degrees and gusty winds of

25mph, but seemed a bit higher when I was at the field. Ola reported that Ralph Baker was the first to fly in 2026 before the 9am event start time. An idea of a Le Mans style start was discussed where at 9am pilots would need to start engines or install batteries before taking flight. Ola thanked Ron Vernier and Ray Murphy for advertising the event. Ola shared photos and a short write up to AMA, we may see our event published. Irv Thurrott mentioned the winds and light snow blowing around the field quickly erased footprints and ski / float tracks.

The East Windsor indoor flight season continues Fridays 1-3pm organized by Bob Spooner and Irv Thurrott. Ron and Buddy have begun planning the spring swap meet scheduled for the first weekend in May. Warbirds over Ellington is sanctioned for September 12th.

Field Supervisor Report

Bob Viering spoke of equipment servicing, the zero turn will get an oil change and Glen Schlude is to service our tractor. Plans for spring clean up include, cleaning and painting our containers, staining plane stations, and basic property clean up. Chris Garrett offered to assist in attaching our club owned brush hog to our tractor. John Palica asked what had happened to the 3-year plan of field improvements? Bob responded the projects have not been forgotten, some have been presented and voted down. Big projects I'm questioned about are tree cutting and runway improvements, also ideas of repositioning the runway if enlarged to effectively take the south trees out of the approach line. Tree cutting would need wetlands approval which could include hiring scientists to test our land. These are expensive projects to fund and we did have a large expense last year with the purchase of our new zero turn mower. Safety rules were read aloud, stay safe at the field, please fly with a friend.

Liaison Officer

Ray Murphy presented the raffle prize, a P-51 Mustang new in box never assembled, Mike Jaworski held the winning ticket, excited to see his son's reaction to their new plane. Ray mentioned NCRCC stickers can be purchased from him. Club merchandise is available through our website under the "club apparel merchandise" page.

New/old Business

Peter Tani shared that he, Kevin Cyr, Lloyd Burnham, Ron Vernier, and Ralph Rinaldi have committed to working with Western New England University again now in the 4th year of Fundamentals of Flight.

Meeting adjourned 7:52 pm

Bill Cranford, Secretary