



Celebrate Ludlow Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2026
Town Hall, Selectman's Conference Room, 6:00 pm.

Committee Members: Linda Collette, Diane Walton, Lisa Martin, Eric Segundo, Melanie Trexlar, Kara Jorge, Derek DeBarge, Christopher Smith, Laurie Smith, Elaine Hodgman

Attendees: Linda Collette, Robert Haryasz, Christine Bassett, Cheryl Lukas

Meeting called to order at 6:07 p.m.

Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

Acceptance of meeting minutes of December 8, 2025.

Mention of Bruce Durand resigning from our committee due to family obligations.

Discussion of the Friends of the Ludlow 250th 501(3)(c) changing their name to Friends of Celebrate Ludlow Committee and continuing to support the Celebrate Ludlow Committee and our town events.

Discussion of the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee – they have had 4 members resign due to family obligations and personal health reasons, leaving the committee with only 5 active members. At their last meeting held on January 29th, they discussed merging with the Celebrate Ludlow Committee to combine events and volunteers to carry out the planned upcoming events, such as the Tag Sale, Children's Bike parade (hosted along with Ludlow Police Dept.), and the Breakfast with Santa.

The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 25, 2026. Since the Parade Committee is down to just a few, it was discussed that those still active will continue to assist in the parade organization. This Celebrate Ludlow Committee will help in any way needed so that our town's Memorial Day Parade will be successful, organized, and fun for all. However, we will need volunteers to assist. We will continue with the parade registration forms being posted and sent to all prior participants. We will also ask The Register newspaper to announce the parade, registration, seeking volunteers, etc. John Diotalevi (parade committee member and president of the Polish American Citizen's Club) has assisted in organizing the parade many years ago and will help to get this year's parade underway with our help. Registration forms will need to go out by early March, with a deadline to register by May 1.

Our nation's 250th is this year and it was discussed that this year's Memorial Day parade could host a contest for the best float with a possible \$250 prize for their non-profit organization.

Town Tag Sale – was discussed. This event is a Parade Committee sponsored event, however if we are to merge committees, will this event (and others) continue? We will gather information from the former members about the work involved in putting this kind of town tag sale (held at LHS parking lot) together to determine if it will happen or be scrapped. In the past, this tag sale brought in about \$1,500-1,800. It's a one-day event and is tentatively planned for a Saturday in June, when the weather is warmer. So far, nothing has been started by the parade committee.

Falling Into Fun- date set for October 3, 2026, 11-6:00.

Bob Haryasz has agreed to Chair this event with Linda Collette. We'll start to advertise this event to seek vendors by early April. An email will be sent to all prior vendors as they have requested this in the past. We'll have food truck vendors and any local non-profits wishing to participate as we've done in the past.

So far we have secured Acousticca band, and possibly the CCG band.

Food vendors already secured is Matt's Backyard BBQ and Dave & Wanda's Puerto Rican Cuisine. Looking for 4-5 more food trucks.

The active people on this committee and the volunteers who have been a huge help this past year have expressed concern about the non-active members of this group. Open meeting laws apply to this committee. We have asked numerous times to send a letter of resignation if not interested. A letter will be crafted and sent to all members asking to reply yes or no to this committee. If no reply, they will be removed. We have to assume they no longer have an interest in this committee.

We will all actively solicit new members who will be a good fit for this committee. We will craft an article to submit to The Register seeking hard working individuals to be a part of the many great events we have planned for our townspeople and community.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00

Next meeting is March 2, 2026. The Memorial Day Parade Committee will be included.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Collette