

**East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission
East Granby, Connecticut**

MINUTES

Meeting Date: Thursday, December 7, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, December 7, 2017. Members present when Chairman Pat Gill called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. were Brendan Freeman, Karen Hines, Doreen Jacius, Rosalie McKenney, Joan Krogh, Jim Gothers and Bob Ravens-Seger. Director Alicia VanNeil was also present.

2. DISCUSSION WITH PUBLIC - None

3. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger and seconded by Joan Krogh to accept the minutes of the meeting 11/2/17. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE - None

5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Alicia reported that both elementary afterschool programs are ending with great success. They will be offered again next year.

The NYC trip December 2nd had a full bus, and the trip for next year is already planned, as is the Bronx Zoo trip in 2018.

Ski sundown has lower enrollment at the elementary level and they are looking for creative ways to transport the kids there on a smaller bus and return with the high school/middle school bus.

Basketball is up and running. The biggest challenge is there is not enough space for all teams to practice as much as they'd like. Brandon Freeman suggested contacting the YMCA to see if they have any free court time. Possibly getting some new equipment. Ryan Aeschliman will run the Saturday part of the program.

Numerous other programs (some new) for adults and kids are being planned, including a cooking series for adults, yoga and meditations, tumbling, Zumba and more. Red Sox tickets purchased for 3 games in April and 2 in the summer.

A draft of a Granbrook Park Camp survey was distributed.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

No financial report available at this time. Rosalie anticipates a very tight budget outlook for 2018. Anticipated increases in (1) the field maintenance contract, (2) greenway repairs, and (3) much needed repairs at Granbrook Park will need to be the focus of the next budget.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports

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1. **Farmington Valley Heritage Trail** - Bob Ravens-Seger reported that everything is looking good on the section between 189 and Rte 20. The bike repair station donated by REI is impressive. Bob departed the meeting after his report.
2. **Open Space** - Nothing to report.
3. **Cowles Park** - Doreen Jacius reported that the new bridge area has opened access to more existing orange trail that hasn't been used in a while which also crosses through wetlands and will need bridging in the future. Signage will be the next focus. At the year-end NEMBA meeting, discussion included looking for grants to help in the improvements at Cowles. In addition, NEMBA discussed working with Eversource on a trail agreement where the trails lead up to their equipment through the area.
4. **Granbrook Park** - Rosalie McKenney went down to Granbrook Park and reviewed areas with Ayotte Brothers that need repairs. They will do an itemized estimate for each area of concern as follows: (1) shifting the path from the parking lot closer to the swings, (2) removing the paddle court area, and (3) addressing the disrepair at the tennis court site.
5. **East Granby Farms**
 - a. Rec Center Sound Abatement – Ceiling tiles are up and the income from the facility rentals covered all but \$100 of the costs. OP Painting's estimate for painting the interior was reasonable. A motion was made by Rosalie McKenney, and seconded by Brandon Freeman to approve \$1,600 be allotted for costs to paint the interior of the East Granby Farms Rec Center. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.
 - b. Future Improvements to Little League Field – Dan Mucha was consulted on the possibilities for running electrical to the first baseline side of the field. It was concluded the most logical approach would be to try to attach to the electric at the street. Dan will be contacting Eversource.
 - c. Disc Golf Update - The design plan and estimate came in way higher than expected. Given the needed repairs in other areas, this is tabled as a possible endeavor for the future, but will not be part of the 2018 budget.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Committee Priorities for 2018 Budget – These will be addressed at the January 2018 meeting. Granbrook repairs are currently the top priority.
- B. Adult Program Ideas - Two suggestions were made for casino trip possibly pairing up with Womens Club to fill the bus and a Broadway show trip. Alicia asks that members send additional ideas to her.
- C. Elections and 2018 Meeting Dates to be handled at the January 4, 2018 meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jim Gothers and seconded by Joan Krogh to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Coushaine, Clerk