

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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Date: December 5, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, December 5, 2019, in the Sears House located at East Granby Farms, 79 North Main Street, East Granby, Connecticut. At 7:03 P.M., Patrick Gill called the meeting to order. Members present were Patrick Gill, Bob Ravens-Seger, Brandon Freeman, Rosalie McKenney, Doreen Jacius and Karen Hines.

Director of Parks & Recreation, Alicia Van Neil, was also present.

Chairman Gill welcomed Ms. McKenney back from her short absence. He also informed the Commission that Christina Leadbeater would be joining the Parks and Recreation Commission for the January meeting. Ms. Leadbeater was sworn in yesterday by First Selectman, Jim Hayden.

**2. DISCUSSION WITH PUBLIC – None**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the November 7, 2019 meeting minutes was tabled until the January 2nd, 2020 meeting.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Program Director, Ms. Van Neil, reported that Basketball is underway. She detailed how many teams have been formed for each age group. Ms. Van Neil informed the Commission that the Ski Sundown Program that has run in years past, will not be running this year due to low enrollment. Ski Sundown looks to have twenty participants; with only nine children participating, and transportation being costly, the program can not move forward this year. Ms. Van Neil will try to offer the program again next year. Ms. McKenney suggested that a Family Day be offered during Winter Break as a fun activity and to spark interest in children who might then participate next year.

Ms. Van Neil reported that Mason has officially on-boarded with Youth Services and Parks and Recreation. He splits twenty hours evenly between the two, and Ms. Van Neil feels he is a great addition.

Ms. McKenney reported on the Holiday Tree Lighting event held recently on November 29th, 2019, at the East Granby Town Hall. Ms. McKenney said the event was a success, the children seemed to enjoy the addition of the Letter to Santa Program, and she noted that next year the event date will be moved back to the first Friday in December. Ms. Jacius suggested that the High School Chorus be invited to perform (possibly lead the caroling) next year.

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

- 6. TREASURER'S REPORT** - Ms. McKenney passed the budget out to the Commission. She noted that the report is a month behind. Discussion was had about \$8,800 spent for the ball field maintenance and clay since July 1.  
Ms. Van Neil noted that the invoice for Summer Camp staff has been reimbursed.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Committee Reports**

1. ***Farmington Valley Heritage Trail*** - Mr. Ravens-Seger reported that the trail was not plowed above Copper Hill. There has been evidence of dogs, snowshoers, cross country skiers, and one snowmobile using the trail since the snowfall.

***At 7:15 P.M., Mr. Ravens-Segar left the meeting.***

2. ***Open Space*** - nothing new to report  
3. ***Cowles Park*** - Ms. Hines and Ms. Jacious reported that the Park shows evidence of being used by snowshoers, hikers, cross country skiers, fat tire bike riders and bears. Ms. Jacious reports positive feedback on new signage from all trail users. A couple trees have been reported as fallen across trails. One tree has been cleaned up, another needs to be addressed.

Ms. Van Neil will submit bill to Ms. McKenney for the signage/trail-markers that were purchased and placed at Cowles Park. Ms. Van Neil also has pictures to post of the trail after snowfall.

4. ***Granbrook Park*** – Mr. Gill reported that he drove down to Granbrook Park prior to the snow storm. Ms. McKenney gave an update on the field that had been flooding during the fall. Currently, the town is waiting for the ground to freeze so the town engineer can check the area and identify the issue which leads to flooding.

Ms. Van Neil reported that Department of Public Works placed the sign near the playground as previously discussed.

5. ***East Granby Farms*** –Ms. McKenney reported that quotes came in for the projector and screen as well as all the audio equipment and wifi for East Granby Farms (barn). The first quote came in high, so a second quote was given by Christian Robison. The second quote compared a high end home system vs. a commercial system. The quote came to \$10,500. Setting up wi-fi will cost approximately \$1,000, and it will be done at a later time, if there are funds still available. Ms. McKenney is seeking approval of a \$4,000 expense out of the separate Recreation Center Rental account.

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

At 7:25 P.M., a **motion** was made by Ms. Jacious to expense \$4,000 out of the separate Recreation Center Rental account for the screen and projector (and audio equipment). Ms. Hines seconded the motion and the votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ms. Hines noted that it is time to elect officers. She has spoken to all parties currently holding positions, and all have agreed to continue in their respective positions.

At 7:26 P.M., a **motion** was made by Ms. Hines to re-elect the current officers; Patrick Gill (Chairman), Jay Brady (Vice Chairman) and Rosalie McKenney (Treasurer). Motion was seconded by Ms. Jacious. Votes in favor were unanimous and the motion carried.

2. Chairman Gill reviewed the proposed meeting calendar for 2020. General consensus is to continue to take the month of July off.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:27 P.M., a **motion** was made by Mr. Freeman and seconded by Ms. McKenney to adjourn. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rathbun  
Commission Clerk