

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
March 7, 2024**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held Thursday, March 7, 2024, in the Town Hall Large Conference Room. Chairperson Pat Gill called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Members also present were Robert Ravens-Seger, Leona Bevins, Marc Dlugolenski, Karen Hines, Morgan Bengel, Nicole Sokolowski, Jon Webster, Ella DeSimone, and Carly McKenney. Program Coordinator Alicia Van Neil was also present. Chloe Rapose was absent.

2. DISCUSSION WITH THE PUBLIC

None

3. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by R Ravens-Seger and seconded by L Bevins to approve the February 1, 2024, minutes. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Program Coordinator A Van Neil shared the pages of the next edition of "Let's Talk Turkey" that will contain the spring and summer programs offered by the East Granby Parks and Recreation. The link for summer job applications and reapplications goes live tomorrow.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

L Bevins reported that the budget is on track.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports

1. **Farmington Valley Heritage Trail** – R Ravens-Seger stated that the condition of the trail has deteriorated even further due to winter weather.
 - a. **Emergency Management Markers**- No update
 - b. **CT Rec Trails Grant Update**- The grant application will be submitted to repave the Farmington Valley Heritage Trail tomorrow. Fixing the damaged bridge has been removed after speaking with DPW and learning that they are able to repair within the current Parks and Rec budget. The trail from the bridge above the river down to Granbrook Park has also been removed due to time constraints of getting estimates.

2. **Cowles Park** – Members shared the park is still busy. C McKenney reported that there are 3 broken parking lot guardrails that need to be fixed.
 - a. **Emergency Management Markers**- No update.

3. **Granbrook Park** – M Bengel reported that the resident that has been donating time and money to the park would like to donate new grills. M Bengel will talk to DPW about removing the old grills and installing new ones. A Van Neil updated the group on the water system project. The topic will be addressed at the town meeting in March.
 - a. **Gate Attendant Summer 2024** – P Gill and A Van Neil met with E Wimpfheimer, First Selectperson, and she agrees that DPW could open the gate in the mornings during the week and resident volunteers on the weekends, and the police could close the gate in the evenings. She will meet with DPW and the state troopers and then report back to P Gill and A Van Neil if this plan will work or not.
 - b. **Softball Field** – No update.

4. **East Granby Farms** –
 - a. **Basketball Court Update**- M Dlugolenski will get quotes for installation now that the weather is getting warmer.
 - b. **Playscape Update**- A Van Neil stated they are still waiting to hear back about the grant proposal.
 - c. **STEAP Grant**- P Gill reported the committee met once to get acquainted and set expectations.

5. **Sports Programs/Coaching/Training/Policies** – No update.

6. **Program Committee** –
 - a. **Easter** – The event will be held Saturday, March 30th. L Bevins asked all members to help with set-up at 9:00 am on that morning.
 - b. **Summer Blast** – L Bevins reported that the band is booked, and the following organizations will be present: Lion’s Club, Granby Ambulance, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, the Library, and the Historical Society. The event will be held on Friday 8/23 with a rain date of Saturday 8/24.

B. Park Rules – M Bengel led a discussion on the list sent out to commission members.

Motion: R Ravens-Seger made a motion to accept the park rules as listed below. J Webster seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

East Granby Park Rules (March 2024):

This property is part of the Town of East Granby Parks System, and the following rules apply:

- The park closes at sunset
- Reservation of park facilities is through permit only
- Dogs must be leashed and under owners control
- Fires are not allowed, except with a permit

- Keep music at a respectable volume level
- NO hunting or trapping
- NO motorized vehicles, except for ADA purposes
- NO alcoholic beverages or intoxicating substances
- NO overnight parking
- NO repairing of vehicles in the lot
- Unregistered vehicles will be towed
- Vandalism and graffiti will be investigated, and those responsible shall be charged

C. Update By-Laws – Tabled until next meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Student Representative Terms – E DeSimone agreed to stay on the board for another year. C Rapose was absent, so her decision is tabled until the next meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by L Bevins and seconded by R Ravens-Seger to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 pm. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Kovaleski
Commission Clerk