PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
November 6, 2025, 6:30pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held Thursday, November 6, 2025, in the Town Hall Large Conference Room. Chairperson Morgan Bengel called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. Members also present were Ken Kovaleski (arrived halfway through the meeting), Leona Bevins, Ella DeSimone, Robert Ravens-Seger, Jim Lindberg, Alexa Bednarz, and Marc Dlugolenski. Amanda Mele, Nicole Sokolowski and Jennifer Derleth were absent. Alicia Van Neil, Program Director, was also absent.

2. **DISCUSSION WITH THE PUBLIC**
   None

3. **APPROVE MINUTES**
   R Ravens-Seger made a motion to approve the minutes as presented for October 2, 2025. L Bevins seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**
   None

5. **PROGRAM REPORT**
   No update (A Van Neil absent). M Bengel shared that A Van Neil needs a bus chaperone on 12/6 for the trip to New York City. L Bevins will check with A Van Neil for details and will update M Bengel.

6. **TREASURERS REPORT**
   N. Sokolowski (absent) shared through M Bengel that everything is on track. There is one big line item for Landscaping since field maintenance and winter prep has been done.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   A. **Cowles Park** – J Lindberg said there are still large potholes in the parking lot that need filling.
      a. **Emergency Management Markers**- L Bevins will walk the main trail with Ken Believue to get GPS coordinates for trail intersections. Signs will be ordered and put up in the spring on already established trail posts.
      b. **Trails Day**- J Derleth and J Lindberg are organizing a day for Scouts, students and public to help clean up the trails. Possible date of Nov. 15th.

   B. Farmington Valley Heritage Trail – R Ravens-Seger walked the trail from Copper Hill to the Suffield line. He noted that the stop/dog leash signs post was down and needed to be fixed. There is also shattered windshield glass in a couple parking spots. There weren't many people using the trail on the cooler evening that he was there. K Kovaleski walked Copper Hill to the Granby line and behind Basile Pond. He obtained GPS coordinates for the mile markers and noted a few items that need maintenance that he sent to A Van Neil. M Dlugolenski walked Copper Hill to the Suffield line to get the GPS coordinates for those mile markers.

a. **Emergency Management Markers** – GPS coordinates have been gathered for all mile markers along the trail. R Ravens-Seger mentioned markers should go on both sides of the mile marker posts.
b. **CT Rec Trails Grant Update**- No update.

C. **Granbrook Park** –
a. **Playscape** – M Bengel noted that $50,000 has been allocated on the town's Capital Plan. The next step is to gather 3 quotes for the play area for the Board of Selectmen. M Bengel said the playscape subcommittee will be meeting next Friday at 1:30 to talk about options if anyone wants to join them.
b. **Softball Field –** J. Lindberg reported all items have been purchased for the softball field and will be installed in the spring. Jim had fun researching this project. There is still money in the Little League funds to be able to maintain the field in the future.

D. East Granby Farms –
a. **STEAP Grant updates-** M Dlugolenski reported that basketball and pickleball courts will be ready to use in the spring. M Bengel relayed a message from A Van Neil that park rules signs are needed at the north entrance. M Dlugolenski will reach out to the Eagle Scouts about making an "EG Pickleball Courts" sign.

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

F. Program Committee –
a. **Halloween-** M Bengel reported that all went well. Volunteers helped direct traffic since the Civil Air Patrol was not present. Approximately 750 people attended the event.
b. **Tree Lighting-** The event will be on Dec. 5th. The committee has a meeting soon to discuss more details.
c. **250th Celebration-** Two out of the three bands have been selected. L Bevins said they are still looking for a third band. Fundraising for the concerts is going well. The last concert and parade will probably be at East Granby Farms.
d. **Dance Recital-** The date of the event is December 14th, 11:00am. More details TBD.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Reappoint Morgan Bengel:

Motion: K Kovaleski made a motion to appoint Morgan Bengel for another full 4-year term. R Ravens-Seger seconded the motion. All in favor, except for M Bengel who abstained. Motion carried. Her term will now carry through 10/30/2029.

B. 2026 Meeting Dates-

Motion: R Ravens-Seger made a motion to accept the amended meeting dates as presented. L Bevins seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. See attached document.

C. **Officer Elections next meeting-** M Bengel and L Bevins will reach out to members to see who is interested in holding an officer position next year.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**
   A motion was made by L Bevins and seconded by R Ravens-Seger to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Kovaleski
Commission Clerk