

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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Date: May 2, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, May 2, 2019, in the Sears House located at East Granby Farms, 79 North Main Street, East Granby, Connecticut. At 7:02 pm, Chairman Pat Gill called the meeting to order. Members present were Alician Van Neil, Jim Gothers, Joan Krogh, Rosalie McKenney, Bob Ravens-Seger, Karen Hines, Doreen Jacius and Jay Brady.

2. DISCUSSION WITH PUBLIC – None.

3. APPROVE MINUTES

At 7:04 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Jacius and seconded by Ms. Krogh to accept the minutes of the March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE      No correspondence.

5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Program Director thanked all the volunteers for their help with this year's Easter Egg Hunt. An update was given on the Flag Football season which is under way. No football is taking place at Granbrook Park currently, but will likely in the future. No progress has been made with flag football officials, one or two more officials are still needed. There is a bus trip scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> to New York City (on your own), another chaperone is needed. Spring activities and camp information is up on the website. Preschool playgroup is underway, with one more session left. The after-school programs are doing well at Seymour School and Allgrove.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. McKenney reports that the next report will be distributed at the next regular meeting as it is too early in the month. The Commission was advised that there are two more months left in the fiscal year, and to keep in mind any anticipated program needs. Approval of Rental Fees has to go before the Board of Selectman. Ms. McKenney will update the Commission when that will be. Bike rentals were discussed, there are plenty of bike rentals at East Granby Farms. It was noted that the floors look great in the barn at East Granby Farms.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports

1. *Farmington Valley Heritage Trail* -

Trail conditions were discussed. There are some rough areas that need work. Public Works has begun their assessments.

2. *Open Space* - Nothing to report.

3. *Cowles Park* -

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Ms. Jacius reports that the signs have come in and Department of Public Works put the signs up, it also appears the signs are up on the app. There is a new kiosk made out of cedar that has been installed (picture shown). E-Bike sign up is not up and running yet. A trail camera is available should the Commission wish to use it. On Nice days, Cowles is very busy, and the QR code to scan is available to obtain information of trails/maps. Four programs are already planned, including bike demos. There is currently a 5K/10K trail run being proposed for Summer 2020, with several town residents already involved and being supportive.

*4. Granbrook Park –*

Mr. Brady reports that the park is very green and is not currently flooded. Porto potties Have been ordered for Granbrook for Opening Day of fishing.

*5. East Granby Farms –*

A cart is needed to put the tables on, the cart and tables will be arriving soon and \$800 from the Recreation Center Account has been used to cover expenses for that. Equipment has been purchased to expand the playscape, it is called the Cyclone Challenger. Also discussed was the cost for soft playground mulch for a safe environment around the playground.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Little League – tabled until next regular meeting

B. Violations in Parks-

Motorized vehicle use within several parks and trails (Cowles, East Granby Farms and the Rail Trails) was discussed. Issues discussed included trees being cut down and dragged across the trails at Cowles, quad use within East Granby Farms on the fields causing concern of safety to athletes during games/practices, snowplowing of the rail trail occurring when there is clear signage which prohibits such activity, and signs posted at the trailhead soliciting donations for the individual doing the plowing of the rail trail.

Discussion was had about why the rules exist, mainly because of the damage it does to the trail due to erosion and damage done by vehicles. The Commission discussed the repercussions of having motor vehicles in these areas and the general consensus was that it is a police matter, to be handled by the police. DEEP has also been up near the power lines patrolling.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Gothers and seconded by Ms. McKenney to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rathbun  
Clerk