

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

MINUTES

Meeting Date: Thursday, November 2, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, November 2, 2017. Members present when Vice Chairman Jay Brady called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Brendan Freeman, Karen Hines, Doreen Jacius, Rosalie McKenney, Joan Krogh, and Bob Ravens-Seger.

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 10/5/17. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE - None

5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Alicia VanNeil was unable to attend the meeting, but emailed Jay her report.

A. Halloween Party was a great success, with approximately 200 kids. She thanked all who helped, especially the group of middle schoolers and Sharon Shepherd with the Youth Action Council. Magician Ed Popielarczyk was a hit throughout the night.

B. Youth Programs

Ski Sundown – She is seeking adult volunteers to attend the Monday evening program as a chaperone. Signups are slow, and the deadline is 11/10/17 before a late fee is imposed.

Youth Basketball signups for K-8th grade are in full swing. She is always looking for coaches and is currently seeking more space for practice/games for the younger groups.

C. Adult Programs

There is still room in the next NYC trip, which is just for East Granby.

She would like the committee to think of some ideas for other adult programs for the next meeting. Some brought up tonight were UCONN Basketball tickets, and co-ed Softball.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Rosalie distributed the September report. Since last month Rosalie and Alicia have discussed the need to price and prioritize upcoming programs and ideas for programs. The Parks and Recreation budget has had no increase in many years and costs of materials (e.g. field clay) have been increasing steadily. Upcoming expenses noted were the install of sound panels and EG Farms Rec center, the spring maintenance on the Farmington Valley Heritage Trail, Ball Field maintenance, and possibly Disc Golf.

For the next meeting, all members were asked to assess their committee priorities for budget discussions.

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7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports

1. **Farmington Valley Heritage Trail** - Other than expected leaf cover trail is fine. Jim Hayden posted online about a bike repair station that was installed near the 189 section of the trail through the Farmington Valley Trails Council, REI in West Hartford and DPW.
2. **Open Space** - Nothing to report.
3. **Cowles Park** – The boardwalk discussed in prior meetings was successfully installed through the most used ‘wetland’ portion of the trail. Thanks to all local citizens and trail enthusiasts who helped. Thank you to Createx Color in East Granby who very generously donate the wood.

Some fallen trees were also taken care of by resident volunteers.

Signage along the trails and hiking paths need fixing. Some are in bad shape, some incorrect, and some just missing (e.g. junction markers).

4. **Granbrook Park** – Rosalie and Eddie Hubbard of DPW went down to review the property. Work needs to be done on the path from the parking lot. The tree roots have become intrusive. It was recommended to move the path closer to the swings area so as not to need to damage roots which could then lead to the trees dying.

In addition, they reviewed the prospect of tearing out old tennis courts and putting in a general use field, which will expand space for Flag Football and numerous other activities in town. Expenses for DPW to do the work will be forthcoming.

5. East Granby Farms –

- A. Alicia sent Newgate Builders the dates in November where the rec center will be available for installation of the ceiling panels. Painting costs have not been estimated at this time, and once that occurs the wall panels portion of the project can begin.
- B. Still need approximate costs from EG Little League on some of the proposed changes to the EG Farms Ball Field area. Ideas include a bull pen area, PA System and a batting machine which would all require electric be run to the other side of the field.
- C. Rosalie discussed the Disc Golf proposal with one of the top course designers. She is awaiting his report, but preliminary thoughts are that it is a great spot for both a small family friendly course and a competitive course with more difficulty.

8. NEW BUSINESS - None

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Joan Krogh and seconded by Karen Hines to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Coughaine, Clerk