

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

**MINUTES**

**Subject to Approval**

**Meeting Date: March 5, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, March 5, 2020, in the Sears House located at East Granby Farms, 79 North Main Street, East Granby, Connecticut. At 7:01 P.M., Patrick Gill called the meeting to order. Members present were Patrick Gill, Rosalie McKenney, Doreen Jacius, Karen Hines and Chrissy Leadbeater

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

At 7:03 P.M., Ms. McKenney made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion with Kim Wolf and Donna Santy for a proposed memorial at East Granby Farms honoring Ryan Attianese. Motion was seconded by Ms. Jacius, and the motion passed unanimously.

**2. DISCUSSION WITH PUBLIC**

- A. **Discussion of memorial at East Granby Farms honoring Ryan Attianese** - Kim Wolf and Donna Santy presented the Commission with a proposal to place a memorial plaque and/or sign at East Granby Farms in honor of Ryan Attianese. Discussion ensued about where to place the sign/plaque. Ideas considered were placing a sign/plaque at the dugout, placing a plaque near a flagpole, dedication of the snack shack and placing a plaque on the snack shack. Ms. Wolf shared some rough drawings with ideas for the snack shack, and explained why she felt it would be most appropriate for the snack shack to be designated as "Coach A's Snack Shack" as he always bought ice cream for both teams after the games.

At 7:16 P.M., Ms. McKenney made a motion to approve the sign and plaque being placed at East Granby Farms as presented, with the following conditions:

1. Sign/Plaque designs, colors and dimensions are to be submitted to the Commission for final approval. Ms. Wolf or Ms. Santy will email sign proposals to the Commission Clerk and Chairman for final approval from the Commission.

Ms. Jacius seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

At 7:18 P.M., Ms. McKenney made a motion to approve the February 6, 2020 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Ms. Hines. Motion passed  
Approval of the November 7, 2019 meeting minutes was tabled until the next scheduled meeting.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE** - Ms. Van Neil advised that the Commission should expect a verbal request for another memorial plaque or the like next month.

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**5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Program Director, Ms. Van Neil, gave an update about the upcoming programs to be offered in the spring. All offerings will be in the next 16 page edition of Talk Turkey. Programs include: Men's Drop-om Recreational Basketball, Yoga, Zumba, Adult Golf, Running Programs, Adult Tap & Jazz, Painting in Watercolor, Growing Healthy Kids, Introduction to Horseback Riding, Preschool Play Time, Spring NFL Flag Football, Spring Youth Tennis, Spring and Summer Youth Golf, Youth Dance Classes, Summer Skyhawks Youth Programs, Art Ventures at R.D. Seymour School and Allgrove School, Sports of All Sorts at R.D. Seymour School, Many Summer Camps (including dance, theatre, sports and themed camps), What's Cooking Jr. Chef, Summer Horsemanship Programs at End of Hunt Equestrian Center and Maple View Farm, Summer Musical Theatre Camps. Upcoming trips and events include the Bronx Zoo, New York City on your own, Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Egg Bag and Craft, Running Display Craft, Golf Camp at Copperhill Golf Course, and Summer Employment and Volunteer Opportunities.

Ms. Van Neil reports that she has been interviewing Counselors and CITs for the Summer Camps. She also reports that basketball is winding down and it went very well. Feedback received is that people would like to see the program expand next year, but gym space is an issue.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT** - Ms. McKenney passed the budget out to the Commission. She advised that there are no changes to report except for the salaries.

**7. OLD BUSINESS -**

**A. Committee Reports**

1. ***Farmington Valley Heritage Trail*** - Mr. Ravens-Seeger submitted an email in his absence reporting that he "was on the trail twice in the past week, and the frost heaves are getting more numerous, especially in the quarter mile stretching from the south of Copper Hill." He also mentioned some of the fencing being in bad shape. Ms. McKenney noted that that materials have already been purchased to fix it (new rails and pieces), it just needs to be installed.
2. ***Open Space*** - Ms. McKenney reported that there is no new account money.
3. ***Cowles Park*** - Ms. Jacious reported that closures for mountain biking are going better and that there is discussion about creating a cutoff trail after the boardwalks. They would meet up where the 3-way intersection is, this will help create different paths for bikers and hikers.  
Discussion ensued as to whether there is adequate trash Receptacles. It was noted that this is a carry in, carry out property.  
Ms. Van Neil noted that Port-O-Potties will be delivered by Opening Day which is April 11, 2020.
4. ***Granbrook Park*** - Ms. McKenney gave an update on Granbrook Park, and the baseball field situation. A meeting is scheduled with the Town Engineer, Ms. McKenney, and Eric Davidson, a Soil Specialist, to evaluate the soil for the new proposed baseball field area.

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Ms. McKenney also noted that she will check with Farm League Little League to see if there is a need before dismantling the existing baseball field. There is still no update of where the water is coming from as it has been such a mild winter and no equipment can be brought in to investigate the issue.

**5. East Granby Farms** –Ms. McKenney reported that the old flagpole outside the center pole broke and there is a group who wants to replace it. Questions from Commission included: What type of replacement are they looking for? Will it be lit or will they raise and lower the flag each day it is used? Who will ensure it meets mandates such as lowering the flag to half mast? The Commission would like more information prior to approval. Ms. McKenney will follow up with the questions and report back. Ms. McKenney also reported that most of the A/V work is done in the recreation center barn. The sound center will be fixed, so that it works properly.

**8. GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- A. Subcommittees** - Ms. Van Neil suggested that the subcommittees be reorganized so that new members are contributing and so that the load is lightened for some other members. More to come at future meetings.
- B. Review By-laws and Policy Statement** - Ms. Jacius and Ms. Leadbeater will review the By-laws and Policy Statement to see if there are areas where language changes could/should be implemented.
- C. Easter Egg Hunt** - April 11th, 2020 at 8:30 A.M., Middle School Youth Action Council to help fill eggs and organize. Ms Van Neil requests the help of all Commission members able to assist that morning.
- D. Newgate Halloween Party** - Ms. Van Neil requested the Halloween Party at Newgate be moved to Friday, October 30th, 2020. The Commission had no objections.
- E. Uconn Football Tickets** - Ms. Leadbeater reported that the dates are out for the upcoming home games, times to follow at the end of March, early April. There are several options available. Details are still being ironed out regarding minimum ticket sales and whether or not money can be refunded if all tickets are not sold. Ms. Leadbeater will follow up and report back at the next meeting.
- F. Retrospective Analysis** - Ms. Leadbeater presented the idea of a retrospective analysis to better understand what can be done better by Parks & Recreation. Online surveys sent via email or post transaction were both discussed versus a paper copy mailed. Ms. Leadbeater will formulate a proposed survey to present to the Commission at the next meeting.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:10 P.M., a **motion** was made by Ms. Jacius and seconded by Ms. McKenney to adjourn. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rathbun  
Commission Clerk