

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

**MINUTES**

**Subject to Approval**

**Meeting Date: April 2, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regularly scheduled virtual meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, April 2, 2020. At 7:10 P.M., Patrick Gill called the meeting to order. Members present during meeting were Patrick Gill, Doreen Jacius, Karen Hines and Chrissy Leadbeater, Brandon Freeman, Jim Gothers, and Bob Ravens-Seger.

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

**2. DISCUSSION WITH PUBLIC - *none***

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

At 7:15 P.M., Chairman Gill made a **motion** to approve the November 7, 2019 meeting minutes, motion was seconded by Mr. Gothers, and the motion passed unanimously.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE - Correspondence discussed in East Granby Farms section..**

**5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Program Director, Ms. Van Neil, gave an update about the current status of programs. She noted that all in person events and programs have been cancelled. Ms. Van Neil is working to refund program fees; preferably by way of encouraging account credits for future programs. So far, she has refunded around half a dozen checks and the rest have been agreeable to crediting the account. Ms. Van Neil noted that several classes may transition to Zoom classes. Currently those would include dance, Art Ventures and Mad Science.

Ms. Van Neil also noted that the bus trip to New York City (New York City on your own) will be rescheduled to August or September.

No decisions have been made about summer programs yet. All buildings are closed through April 30, 2020. The previously scheduled Women's Club Ridge Run and the Bike Clinic have been cancelled. The Easter Egg Hunt has also been cancelled. No items had been purchased. Port-O-Potties have been dropped off at Cowles, Granbrook and the Rail Trail.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT - *nothing to report***

**7. OLD BUSINESS -**

**A. Committee Reports**

1. ***Farmington Valley Heritage Trail*** - Mr. Ravens-Seger reported that he was recently on the trail from Copper Hill into Simsbury. The condition of the trail has not changed since

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last month. The divots and frost heaves are numerous, and some of the fencing is in bad shape. Ms. Van Neil reiterated that materials have already been purchased to fix it (new rails and pieces), it just needs to be installed by Department of Public Works.

2. **Open Space** - *nothing to report*

3. **Cowles Park** - Ms. Hines reported that the parking lot for Cowles has been full each day she has passed by. She noted that East Granby Park is saturated with bike trails, and suggested that if any more trails are to be cut, permission should be obtained from Parks and Recreation. Discussion ensued about the crowds that were seen within Cowles Park and how to deter crowding/encourage social distancing.

4. **Granbrook Park** – Ms. McKenney, Ms. Van Neil and the Town Engineer did not meet as planned; meeting to be rescheduled.

5. **East Granby Farms** –Ms. Van Neil reported that most of the A/V work is done in the Recreation Center Barn. The sound center will be fixed. Currently there is one more part needed to complete the project and then it will be complete.

Ms. Van Neil received correspondence from Christine Rusnock requesting a trail be named after her father, John Rusnock. Discussion ensued about which trail would best be designated, and it was decided that input would be gathered from the school coach

(Track

& Field/Cross Country) as to which trail would be most meaningful. Ms. Leadbeater noted there is nothing in the by-laws that addresses naming a trail after a resident.

At 7:37 P.M., a **motion** was made by Mr. Gothers and seconded by Mr. Brady to approve a trail (to be determined) being named after John Rusnock at East Granby Farms. Sign and site to be determined at a later date. Motion passed unanimously.

**8. NEW BUSINESS** - *none*

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:40 P.M., a **motion** was made by Mr. Gothers and seconded by Mr. Freeman to adjourn. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rathbun  
Commission Clerk