

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**East Granby, Connecticut**  
**November 12, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A special meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held via Zoom and telephone call-in on Thursday, January 7, 2021. Chairman Patrick Gill called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Members present were Vice Chairman Jay Brady, Treasurer Rosalie McKenney, Karen Hines, Robert Ravens-Seger, James Gothers, Chrissy Leadbeater, Brandon Freeman, and Doreen Jacius. Also present was Program Director Alicia Van Neil.

**2. DISCUSSION WITH THE PUBLIC**

None

**3. APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion was made by B Ravens-Seger and seconded by C Leadbeater to approve the minutes of September 3, 2020 as submitted. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

A motion was made by D Jacius and seconded by J Brady to approve the minutes of October 1, 2020 as submitted. B Ravens-Seger did not vote as he was not in attendance. The remaining votes were in favor. Motion carried.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

A Van Neil stated that she received a donation request for Project Graduation. R McKenney stated that the Commission has donated \$400 in the past. A motion was made by J Brady and seconded by B Ravens-Seger to donate \$400 to Project Graduation. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

**5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A Van Neil stated that adult programs are running as planned except that, since the Governor has put the State back to Phase 2.1, masks are now required for all indoor programs. The number of program participants does not exceed the outdoor or indoor maximum requirements. Thus, this is not an issue. Virtual programs are also continuing as planned.

The only current issue is the lack of access to the schools, which eliminates all after school programs. The biggest impact of this is the fact that there are not

likely to be any winter basketball programs. This, along with the cancellation of fall flag football due to COVID-19, means that the two biggest money makers which help offset costs for summer camps will generate no money this year. She expressed concern for the summer 2021 programs.

## **6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

R McKenney distributed the October report. The biggest item missing is a current number for park and field maintenance. Those bills have not yet been filed with her; so she anticipates a two month update for those expenses at the next meeting.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Committee Reports**

- 1. Farmington Valley Heritage Trail** – B Ravens-Seger stated that steady use of the trail is continuing and its condition is good.
- 2. Open Space** – No report
- 3. Cowles Park** – D Jacius stated that the trees which fell during the last storm have been cleared by the New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA).

The “No Parking” signs which have been placed on the Park side of the road are working. However, people are now parking on the far side of the road, where there are no signs. She thinks people, especially those not from this area, are unaware that there are other entrances which have parking.

A Van Neil stated that she has received a request from Sean Trombly for an Eagle Scout Project to make and place a kiosk in the main parking lot much like the one which was done as an Eagle Scout Project for the south entrance. His proposal includes both bike and hiking trail maps and that he will be doing his own fundraising. The Commission suggested asking him to include all available parking on his maps.

A motion was made by B Ravens-Seger and seconded by R McKenney to accept Sean Trombly's Eagle Scout Project as presented. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

- 4. Granbrook Park** – No report
- 5. East Granby Farms** – No report

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Holiday Tree Lighting** – R McKenney stated that the usual format for the tree lighting is not possible because of COVID-19 restrictions. She welcomed suggestions for what kind of lighting and holiday celebration would be possible. There was a lengthy discussion of options, most of which were also restricted. She asked the Commission to think of ideas and how to pursue them within the Phase 2.1 restrictions and email them to her as soon as possible. She would work towards incorporating them into a Tree Lighting Holiday Celebration on December 4, 2020.
- B. 2021 Meeting Dates** – A list of monthly meeting dates was distributed. They would be the first Thursday of every month, except July when there would be no meeting. It was noted that the list had a typographical error which showed April 8 instead of April 1.

A motion was made by B Ravens-Seger and seconded by J Brady to accept the 2021 Meeting Dates including the April correction. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

P Gill extended a thank you to A Van Neil, R McKenney, C Leadbeater, and all the volunteers who made the Halloween Trick or Treat event and the Drive-In Movie events happen. There was a lot of fun and happiness because of their efforts. He suggested that a thank you note be sent to Mark Oquisanti for donating the space for the Drive-In Movies.

A motion was made by B Ravens-Seger and seconded by R McKenney to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Marsele  
Commission Clerk