

**MINUTES**  
**East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**East Granby, Connecticut**  
**February 4, 2021**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held via Zoom and telephone call-in on Thursday, February 4, 2021. Chairman Patrick Gill called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Members present were Vice Chairman Jay Brady, Treasurer Rosalie McKenney, Karen Hines, Robert Ravens-Seger, James Gothers, and Christina Leadbeater. 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 both November 12, 2020 and January 7, 2021 as submitted. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A Van Neil stated that although First Selectman Jim Hayden shut down all January programs due to COVID-19, he has approved the opportunity for there to be February programs. The buildings are still closed for outside groups; but her regular dance programs and cooking programs will be resuming. There is also approval for the adult art class. However, the instructor needs to get enrollment back, and has decided to look towards the spring for resumption.

She did not have a report concerning the basketball program. She is waiting for permission from Superintendent Melissa Bavaro-Grande about the use of the facilities now that the Governor has revised the opportunity for certain indoor sports.

She has begun outlining spring and summer programming. There is usually information about these programs in the March edition of Let's Talk Turkey. However, she may not know what is possible by the edition deadline and will

have to decide whether to post a partial list of doable programs in March, or wait until later when she has a full list of offerings.

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

R McKenney stated that she had no new submitted budget items to report.

The 2021-2022 budget was submitted.

There was a change made to allocate money for a Clerk for all eleven meetings.

The budget includes MyRec Software, which is a valuable tool for continued online programs. Originally, the annual cost was not provided for in the budget. It was allocated from the round fund. Conversations with the auditors indicated that since it is used to run programs, it would be an appropriate expense under the program fund. Then the cost of the software could be offset when pricing future programs. The thinking was to list it as an expense under the contract services line in the budget instead of continuing to take it from the round fund. That is how it has been proposed in the submitted budget, along with a request to increase the contract services line by a little over each of three years to ensure that there will be enough money in the budget to cover this expense in the future. The annual cost has risen to about \$3,500.

A Van Neil stated that she just received this year's invoice from MyRec, which is due March 1, 2021. There was a COVID-19 volume revenue loss deduction of \$600. The remainder bill is \$2,995. Since the current budget has not been fully used due to COVID-19 forcing the cancellation of various programs, she and R McKenney expect there will be enough money left in the current budget to pay for this bill. Otherwise, it will be paid from the round fund.

A motion was made by J Brady and seconded by B Ravens-Seger to pay the expense for the MyRec software of \$2,995, due March 1, 2021, out of the 2020-2021 budget. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion Carried.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Committee Reports**

- 1. Farmington Valley Heritage Trail** – B Ravens-Seger stated that while he had not been on the trail since the recent big snowfall, he did observe at the Route 20 crossing that there was evidence of hikers, but not of snowmobiles yet.
- 2. Open Space** – R McKenney had no report.

3. **Cowles Park** – K Hines stated that she had been snowshoeing there a few times and there is evidence of park use by hikers as well as the off street parking.
4. **Granbrook Park** – J Brady stated that he had just driven there and the parking lot is plowed. On his way out, he observed that the Park sign had been painted with graffiti. He does not think the vandalism can be removed.
5. **East Granby Farms** – R McKenney had no report. B Ravens-Seger had been there recently on a hike with the East Granby Land Trust, and he observed vehicles parked there and evidence of hikers going up to the summit.
6. **Publicity** – There was a discussion about, and agreement concerning, calling this Committee “Publicity” instead of “Marketing.” The thinking was that the Commission is not selling itself like a product, as Marketing would imply.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Bylaws** -- C Leadbeater stated that she worked with K Hines on potential revisions. The Commission reviewed and revised Articles I through IV. The review of other Articles will resume at the next meeting.
- B. **Committee Review** – The Commission agreed that each Committee should have two people assigned to it. This review will resume at the next meeting.
- C. **Easter** – A Van Neil stated that because these programs are held outdoors, she is hopeful that they can be planned within whatever COVID-19 restrictions might be in place on April 4, 2021, and that for the most part they can be run in as normal a way as possible. She will have more data at the next meeting.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by B Ravens-Seger and seconded by J Brady to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Marsele  
Commission Clerk

