

MINUTES
East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission
East Granby, Connecticut
August 5, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the East Granby Parks & Recreation Commission was held Thursday, August 5, 2021 at the Recreation Building at East Granby Farms. Chairman Patrick Gill called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Members present were Vice Chairman Jay Brady, Treasurer Rosalie McKenney, Karen Hines, Robert Ravens-Seger, who left the meeting at 7:22 pm, James Gothers, Doreen Jacius and Nicole Sokolowski. Also present was Youth Services Program Director Mason Williams.

2. DISCUSSION WITH THE PUBLIC

None

3. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by B Ravens-Seger and seconded by J Brady to approve the minutes of June 3, 2021 as submitted. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

P Gill stated that a resident contacted First Selectman Jim Hayden, who forwarded the correspondence to the Commission. The resident thought the Town should have an annual Town Fair like the 150th Celebration. He offered to write a grant request to The Hartford Foundation to help generate money for the event's first year.

There was a robust conversation about how much work would be required to have such an event, how long it takes to plan and execute such an event, how much funding and fund raising would likely be required above the grant should that happen, and whether an event of that size could be done annually. There were concerns about the uncertainty of planning future events while COVID 19 continues to have an unknown future.

It was the consensus of the Commission that, while this was a worthy idea, it is not possible to give it full consideration until COVID 19 is no longer a valid threat to such an undertaking. It will be tabled until that time.

5. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

M Williams stated that the children's camps have been full and successful. Most will end this week, and the remainder next week. Fall events and adult sports are still being planned and expected to take place barring any COVID 19 restrictions preventing them from happening.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

R McKenney reviewed the financial report for the coming year. She noted encumbrances held from last year's budget to finalize several payments due.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports

- 1. Farmington Valley Heritage Trail** – B Ravens-Seger stated that an area of the trail south of Copper Hill Road and near a swamp continues to have spotty deterioration. R McKenney stated that she would ask the DPW to look at it in case there was any remediation it could do.
- 2. Open Space** – R McKenney stated that the shed for Granbrook Park has been purchased; and as soon as Eversource responds, electricity will be scheduled for installation.
- 3. Cowles Park** – D Jacius stated that mowing the meadow has stopped because the mower used for that is broken and there is a problem getting replacement parts. The new equipment for clearing the trails is working successfully. Parking has no known issues.
- 4. Granbrook Park** – J Brady stated that the newly purchased shed was in place.
R McKenney stated that the DPW had to repair a fence damaged by an errant driver.
- 5. East Granby Farms** – R McKenney stated that she is ready to purchase the basketball hoop. She needs to know exactly which one to get. P Gill stated he would find out and contact her.
- 6. Sports Programs/Coaching/Training** – No report
- 7. Marketing** – R McKenney stated that C Leadbeater has done a great deal of promotion for the Summer Concert Series August 6 and 27, 2021, and for Movie Night at Mark's Auto Parts on September 17, 2021.
N Sokolowski gave a report about Movie Night plans.

8. NEW BUSINESS

R McKenney updated the Commission about the first Concert on August 6, 2021. She noted all the different activities which have been newly added. She reviewed the latest information from The Farmington Valley Health District concerning COVID 19 protocols for both the outdoor and indoor parts of the event.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by J Gothers and seconded by N Sokolowski to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm. The votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Marsele
Commission Clerk