

The minutes of the August 30, 2021 meeting of the East Longmeadow Recreation Commission

The meeting was called to order at 6:13PM

Roll Call: Nancy Roberts, Dan Reynolds, Kevin McLoughlin, Don LePage, Mark Manolakis, Mike Gaudette, Tom Kaye, Donna Prather (Recreation Director), Kristine Foster (Associate Director)

The minutes of three June 21, June 25, and July 12 were approved as written.

Director's Report

- *Jeannie Hageman resigned her position at the Recreation Department on August 18, 2021
- *Kristine Foster is the new Associate Director
- *Jessica Stacy has joined the office staff
- *There is still one unfilled office position which has been posted

Sports Association

Soccer

- *Difficulties with travel verses intown
- *Want to hire tutors for coaches
- *Seth Bratti, Kristine Foster will work as tutors

Softball

- *Softball needs to nominate new board members
- *On going discussion about switching from NESAs to Little League

Football

- *Some teams are dropping out
- *There was discussion about teams playing their home games away and their responsibility to reimburse the team whose field they play on for umpire fees

Field Hockey

- *Moving games to Lenox Fields

New Business

- *Kristen is beginning an 8-week Runner Program in conjunction with 413 on Saturday mornings. It will culminate with the 5K Spooky Sprint with the funds going to the East Longmeadow Recreation Department Scholarship Fund.

*A concern about the condition and upkeep of some parts of the rail trail. It has become overgrown. Maintenance is needed, Motorcycles and scooters have been seen on the trails

Old Business

*The commission discussed revisited the proposal of creating a Parks and Recreation Dept in connection with the DPW Department

*Discussed the return to in-person commission meetings at the COA and broadcasted via Facebook

*The commissioned expressed their disappointment that the Town Council voted down the development of a new playground at Pine Knolls with funds that the CPC had approved

*The Pine Knoll Community Pool was renamed the Coach Charles E. Silvia Memorial Pool. A memorial plaque mounted on East Longmeadow red stone, a bench and poolside plaque were donated by the Laing Family.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34PM

The next meeting will be on Thursday September 2, 2021, at 6:00PM. Location TBA