

**MINUTES – GLASTONBURY RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING – August 10, 2020**

The Glastonbury Recreation Commission held a Special Meeting on Monday, August 10, 2020, by Zoom Video Conferencing.

Commission Members Present on Zoom Meeting: John Langmaid, Yola Rondinelli, Mario DiLoreto, Jessica Wallace, Corey Turner and Ellen Saunig

Others Present on Zoom Meeting: Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks & Recreation

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

- All Recreation Commission members were present.

2. Cotton Hollow Preserve:

Lisa Zerio updated the Commission on the incidents that led up to Cotton Hollow Preserve being closed effective July 20, 2020. There were many incidents where patrons of the Preserve were getting injured from jumping off of cliffs and trees into the water, resulting in emergency services personnel, including Fire, Police and EMS, needing to respond. The Preserve also had a great deal of trash left behind, including broken bottles strewn throughout the area.

The Preserve will remain closed while Town staff works to: clean up litter and broken glass; add location markers within Cotton Hollow to allow emergency personnel to know the exact whereabouts of an injured person(s); install 'No Parking' signs on Hopewell Road; and coordinate Park Ranger staff coverage at the entrances.

The Commission members were given a copy of the letter dated July 30, 2020 from Town Manager, Richard Johnson, to the Town Council, which included Town Code Sec. 14-54, Operating Policies for Cotton Hollow.

A discussion followed with regards to proposed fees. Commission members felt a \$50.00 yearly fee to access Cotton Hollow was too much. Suggestions included a moderate fee similar to the fee structure used for Eastbury Pond. Another idea suggested was to offer a 'bundle pass' that would possibly include the pools, Eastbury Pond and Cotton Hollow.

Conversation included the idea of a Glastonbury parking sticker that would be good for Cotton Hollow, Eastbury Pond, and any other Town facilities, and for parking at special events. The sticker could also possibly be used for the Transfer Station/Bulky Waste facility and the resident would not have to show proof of residency upon arrival.

Dialogue continued with ideas such as installing parking meters and gates, which would be automated and allow easy enforcement. Visitors would be able to purchase a day pass, and display the ticket in their vehicle window.

Lisa Zerio advised the Commission that the Park Ranger Program needs revenues to offset the costs.

A Motion was made by Chairman John Langmaid, Seconded by Ellen Saunig, to charge a \$5/day pass to access Cotton Hollow Preserve for the rest of this season in order to allow Cotton Hollow to re-open. **All in favor and Motion carried.**

3. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zerio
Director of Parks & Recreation