

Beacon Falls Parks and Recreation Commission
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT 06403



BEACON FALLS PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting
June 17, 2019
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Alliance

Present: Steve Ruhl, Don Ferretti, Bob Egan, Mary Ellen Fernandes, Steve Moffat, and Desiree Brooks

Not Present: Donna Taylor

Others Present: Allan Banyacsky, Mike Krenesky

Chairman Steve Ruhl called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held on May 20, 2019, as submitted: Ferretti/Egan; no discussion; ayes by S. Ruhl, B. Egan, D. Ferretti, M. Fernandes, and S. Moffat; and abstention by D. Brooks since she was not present at the meeting.

3. Comments from the Public

Ilyce Cronk, 285 Burton Road, was present at tonight's meeting to ask about her daughter volunteering for the Summer Camp program. I. Cronk indicated that her daughter Hailey, who is 14 years old, is interested in volunteering for the summer camp and the age required is 15 years old. I. Cronk would like to suggest a CIT program.

S. Ruhl indicated that he spoke with Alison Sirowich, who runs the program, and there will be CIT's used for the summer program. S. Ruhl noted that there were too many last year and cutting back this year, rotating the volunteers. S. Ruhl also noted that the YMCA will be running the Summer Camp program next year. S. Ruhl asked if a letter of intend was submitted and I. Cronk replied no, due to the age requirement.

Allan Banyacsky was present at tonight's meeting to update the Commission on Matthies Park, Toby's Pond, and Lantern Ridge. A. Banyacsky indicated that he plans to reblazed the Orange trail next week. A. Banyacsky noted that graffiti was sprayed on the Pump House and other areas and recommends that the town issues ID's to be posted on the vehicles windshields to verify residence. Also, a notice should be posted at the park entrance indicating that violators will have their vehicle will be towed or issued a summons. A. Banyacsky mentioned that the Resident State Trooper was informed of the incident after the vandalized areas were found.

Allan Banyacsky noted that Rick Minnick and himself will be clearing brush and weed growth, weather permitting. A. Banyacsky also noted that Lantern Ridge remains closed since last year's tornado.

Allan Banyacsky indicated that he would like to place a footbridge across the brook near the settling pond and spoke to Dave Keating. D. Keating and himself plan to meet so A. Banyacsky could show him the plans for the footbridge.

Allan Banyacsky noted that he will need to reprint more maps, which is approximately \$125.00. S. Ruhl asked if there were any questions and there were none at this time. S. Ruhl noted that Matthies Park is a private park, not public, and D. Ferretti mentioned that there is a sign noting that the park is for residents only. S. Moffat asked if Toby's Pond was a private park as well and D. Ferretti indicated no, it is a public park.

D. Brooks indicated that there was someone who got stuck in the driveway at Toby's Pond. There are holes in the driveway and need to be addressed. After a brief discussion, the Commission would like to have the Selectmen look into who would be responsible for repairing the driveway, the Town of Beacon Falls or O &G.

Motion to have Public Works contact the Board of Selectmen regarding the condition of the driveway at Toby's Pond and who would be responsibility for making the repairs:
Brooks/Fernandes; no discussion; all ayes.

F.J. and Brandi Burkowsky, and Mike Cratty, all from Hockanum Glen, were present at tonight's meeting to discuss the usage of the rec fields for a Prospect/Beacon Falls flag football league. F. Burkowsky indicated that the children previously played in the Oxford flag football league and the league has been restructured and no longer will allow them to bring a team into the league. The Oxford is going to be more of a rec league.

F. Burkowsky indicated that there are two places in the state where they could go – West Hartford or Greenwich. F. Burkowsky mentioned that their counterparts in Prospect when to their Parks & Rec Commission to discuss the same.

After a brief discussion, S. Ruhl noted that there were problems in the past with insurance and the destruction of the fields. S. Ruhl asked for an application to be filed, which requires an insurance policy included.

Selectman Mike Krenesky was present at tonight's meeting to discuss the town's 150th year celebration. M. Krenesky indicated that there will be an announcement for an initial kick-off meeting to start putting together a 150th Anniversary celebration that will take place in June/July 2021. The commission includes Peter Betkoski and himself and they are looking for volunteering to help.

M. Krenesky indicated that the first fundraiser is "Buy-A-Brick" for a suggested price of \$100.00. The contract hasn't been signed as of yet but hopefully soon. M. Krenesky noted that the money raised will run the celebration.

4. Old Business

a. Matthies Park

S. Ruhl noted that an update was provided by A. Banyacsky during Comments from the Public.

D. Ferretti mentioned that security cameras may be a good thing, even a field camera, to help with vandalism and usage of the park. S. Moffat also mentioned to have more of a police present and have the gates closed at night.

b. Pent Road Recreation Complex

S. Ruhl noted that baseball and softball is going, and all fields are being used.

S. Ruhl asked if there are any Members available to help with parking the night of the fireworks. E. Egan noted that he is away and S. Moffat noted that he will be available. S. Moffat asked about t-shirts and B. Egan will talk with Erin Schwartz.

S. Moffat asked about what is being done with the old monkey bar set/swing set near the old pavilion. S. Ruhl and S. Moffat agreed that they are a hazard and should be taken down.

S. Ruhl reminded everyone of the activities scheduled on July 13, 2019 for Family Day – there are canoe/kayak rentals between 10:00 AM & 3:00 PM at Matthies Park; there is no cardboard boat regatta; Beacon Fall Pizza will be supplying pizza and water; fireworks at Pent Road Rec Field at night; school buses will run from the firehouse and the high school; a parking permit will be needed in order to park at the rec field; and any vendors will need a permit.

c. Riverbend Park

B. Egan indicated that there were no new updates on Riverbend Park.

d. Sports League Reports

S. Ruhl indicated that there were no new updated on the Sports League Reports.

e. Park Activities / Miscellaneous

B. Egan noted that the Summer Concert Series will be starting this week. Liberty Bank will be sponsoring two concerts this year – The Bernadettes and Angelo Ruggiero.

f. Community Media Center Update

M. Fernandes noted that there is no new updates on the Community Media Center.

g. Toby's Pond

S. Ruhl indicated that there is no activity at Toby's Pond. S. Ruhl noted that the Selectmen should contact O & G in regards to fixing the driveway.

5. New Business

S. Ruhl indicated that there was no new business to discuss at tonight's meeting.

6. Correspondence

S. Ruhl indicated that a thank you letter and plaque was received from the Beacon Falls Youth Theater Group. The Group wanted to thank the Commission for supporting the Library by being a Peter Pan sponsor.

S. Ruhl also indicated that the contract from Atlas for the fireworks was received.

7. Applications

S. Ruhl indicated that there were no applications received for tonight's meeting.

8. Grant Information

S. Ruhl indicated that there were no updates on the Grant Information.

9. Review and Payment of Bills

There was an invoice from the Commission's clerk received for tonight's meeting. The invoice is from May 20, 2019 monthly meeting in the amount of \$73.25.

Motion to approve and pay the invoice from the Commission's clerk as submitted for tonight's meeting in the amount of \$73.25: Egan/Brooks; no discussion; all ayes.

10. Budget

The budget was not received for tonight's meeting.

11. Executive Session (if needed)

The Commission did not enter into Executive Session tonight.

12. Adjournment

S. Ruhl asked the Members if there were any other discussions for tonight's meeting and there were none.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 P.M.: **Ferretti/Egan; no discussion; all ayes.**

The next regular meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2019, starting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Parks and Recreation Commission