



**Beacon Falls Parks & Recreation Commission  
10 Maple Avenue  
Beacon Falls, CT 06403**

**BEACON FALLS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
May 15, 2023  
MINUTES (Subject to Revision)**

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:** D. Ferretti called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Members Present: D. Ferretti, P. Monti, R. Egan, L. DeGeorge, S. Moffat (7:05 PM)  
Members Absent: M. Carroll, ME Fernandes  
Public Present: Selectman M. Krenesky, V. Santos, J. De
2. **Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings:** Motion to approve the April 2023 meeting minutes as presented. RE made a motion to approve the minutes. PM seconded the motion. All ayes.
3. **Comments from the Public:** None at this time.
4. **Old Business**
  - a. Matthies Park – S. Moffat reported that the Fishing Rodeo went well, and it was not too busy due to the weather. The YMCA had their Safety Around Water event at Matthies. Jo De from the public noted that she attended and there was little participation, but the program was very informative. She noted that the Cardboard Boat regatta should include water safety precautions. There is a need for training for kids. The message was delivered that Safety is needed at all times around water.
  - b. Pent Rd. Complex – S. Moffat is addressing an issue with the lighting in the parking lot and a breaker panel which needs to be replaced. The Lions Club wanted to do work on the scoreboard and the Town attorney has supplied a liability waiver for volunteers working on Town proper. The Lions want to supply all the labor and materials. S. Moffat would like to see details of any project being done by volunteers and the First Selectman and Public Works would need to okay the work and the design before any volunteer work is done.
  - c. D. Ferretti wants a volunteer requisition of some type, much like the facility application, which would go through an approval process by the Board. This would make the process and the volunteer projects more transparent.
  - d. Toby's Pond – Over the last month, S. Moffat has repaired washouts under the trestle entrance and a big concern is the parking lot driving into Toby's. The stone is sharp and needs to be leveled. It is gravel and has a lot of potholes. The knotweed is also coming back strong this time of year.
  - e. Riverbend Park – Work completed involves mowing and keeping the trails open.
  - f. Community Garden – R Egan reached out to Todd Waldren. He has 21 plots, and they are all booked. There is no access from the back of the garden, because there is rebar in the way. Todd needs more mulch but would not want to receive it until the path is clear.

Todd wanted to know if there was a spare bench or picnic table available for them to use. S. Moffat will reach out to him. The water spigot needed a new bolt and repaired by Public Works.

g. Park Activities/Misc. – R. Egan thanked Steve and Angelo for opening the gates for the Fishing Rodeo. The Fishing Rodeo had 25-50 kids fishing that day, as the weather the not great. Thanks to St. Michaels Men's Club for providing the manpower and the food, which sold out. The largest fish caught was 12 ½ inches. Thanks to the Barksdale Family who also did a lot on that day. The pond was well stocked by Harding Fish with a mix of trout, rainbow, brown, brook, etc.

h. R. Egan continued that the concerts start 6/21 and the Fireworks are 7/8/23. He wanted to get in touch with Matt Smith or whomever is in charge of the Sugar Shack, to see if they want to open the night of the fireworks. Food is needed for that evening, and usually limited to non-profit vendors except for the ice cream truck. D. Ferretti is interested in having more activities for children starting at 6:00 pm. The Naugatuck YMCA has an inflatable obstacle course which they can provide and staff, and they would also do face painting. D. Ferretti asked about a bounce house. V. Santos has a magician friend that may be an option for children. D. Ferretti noted that the fence gets set up on Friday 7/7/23 so games will not take place on Field #3-#5 on Friday. R. Egan noted that the music is booked, but buses are not yet booked.

i. YMCA Update – Other than the Safety Around Water program, we do not have an update from them. Seniors Staying Connected is running at the Senior Center on Saturdays.

j. FY2023 Budget – D. Ferretti had a copy of the current budget figures, and all lines are within budget.

## **5. New Business**

a. Bike Rodeo – 6/3/2023 CT Trail Day is the same day as the bike rodeo and Quarry Walk is also having a bike parade that day. The Police Department will be helping and they are promoting and working on giveaways. D. Ferretti has been planning the layout of Pent Road for the day, the driveway will be blocked off and attendees will park in the back parking lot. There are 4 tables, registration, safety check for helmets and bikes, and rules of the road. There will be several stations with obstacles to coordinate. Prizes will be lined up at the end with giveaways of water bottles. Kids will need to complete stations before getting a ticket for the bike raffle. We will also be raffling off helmets. M. Carroll will run a decorating station. D. Ferretti wanted to contact Card My Yard for a sign. Sign ups are low right now, so we need to promote the event.

b. Cardboard Boat Regatta will be July 22 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Matthies Park. M. Carroll put together registration information. D. Ferretti has information on the Canoe/kayak rentals of 6 canoes/kayaks and life vests and a guide for \$800. Promotion will begin soon for this event, as people need time to build their boats.

c. L. DeGeorge asked if WRHS Varsity Softball would need a facility application for their Senior night. Fees would be waived, and COI is on file, so they would just need to complete an application.

## **6. Correspondence:** None at this time.

## **7. Facility Applications:** D. Ferretti approved 2 applications in the last month – S. Neuman is holding a first birthday on 6/10/23 Pent Road and Naugatuck Senior Babe Ruth league. The Field Calendar has been shared. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade field day is May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> is the rain date and that has been approved. Pack 114 will be camping at Matthies Park this weekend. We are trying to keep pavilion rentals up to date on the Town calendar and on postings in the pavilions.

**8. Grant Information:**

a. K. Matthies Grant – Application was submitted prior to the 5/1/23 deadline for a new swing set at Matthies Park. The grant request was for \$10,000 and the town's portion is \$2500.

**9. Other Business:** The group discussed ways to gain more volunteers to help out with events, etc. L. DeGeorge would like to see more students involved doing community service for Parks & Recreation and she would be interested in working with them. P. Monti noted that if youth are involved and under the Board's supervision, there are Youth Protection courses which may be necessary.

**10. Adjournment – R. Egan made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 PM. P. Monti seconded the motion. All ayes.**

Sincerely,

Erin A. Schwarz