

**Beacon Falls Conservation Commission**  
**10 Maple Ave.**  
**Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



**BEACON FALLS CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**October 7, 2013**  
**(Draft Copy-Subject to Revision)**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Diane Betkoski called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Commissioners present: Vice Chairman Noralie D'Amico, Mike Bouchard, Michael Opuszynski, Secretary Tanya Gutierro, Jeff Kean  
Commissioners absent: Chris Wilemski

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Approval of Minutes – August 5, 2013 & September 9, 2013**

Motion to accept the August 5, 2013 meeting minutes: **Bouchard/Opuszynski**; all aye. *T. Gutierro and N. D'Amico abstained as they were not at the August 5, 2013 meeting.*

Motion to accept the September 9, 2013 meeting minutes: **Bouchard/D'Amico**; all aye. *M. Opuszynski and J. Kean abstained as they were not at the September 9, 2013 meeting.*

**4. Correspondence**

- Newspaper article from the Republican-American regarding a new paint surcharge fee to support a State paint recycling program
- CT Land conservation council – received information on continuing education opportunities for members, D. Betkoski forwarded the email to the commissioners

**5. Membership Update**

- Code of Ethics documents – Tanya Gutierro needs document from Karen Wilson
- Renewal of CACIWC Dues
- CACIWC Annual Conference Nov. 16 – Send registration forms with session choices to D. Betkoski by October 14
- 2014 Conservation Commission Meeting Schedule – distributed to commissioners, clerk will file with the Beacon Falls Town Clerk

**6. 2013-2014 Budget**

The budget status report as of 9/26/13: the only operating expense used thus far was \$110 for CACIWC dues.

7. **Land Use Committee** no activity

8. **Open Space Management**

- Lantern Ridge Project
  - Additional work to be performed – finish posting signs, pull gate out, clean up parking lot on Saturday October 12 starting at 8 AM; also have final discussion of placement of refreshments, ribbon and parking for opening day
  - October 19 Opening at 11 AM - Discussion and Planning for the Event
  - Give notices to neighboring homes on Saturday October 12
  - Invitations were emailed/mailed out
  - It was published in the Citizen's News calendar, a reporter interviewed D. Betkoski via phone for a future article.
  - J. Kean will ask about using the sign in front of the firehouse to advertise.
  - Commissioners each took copies of flyers to post at merchants/restaurants downtown.
  - D. Betkoski designed a printed program with an agenda for ribbon cutting day.
  - Logistics – parking: try to carpool, park on Lantern Ridge Road and walk down, possible parking along Skokorat Road.

At the request of First Selectman Smith, Conservation Commission meeting attendees were asked to go the Town Meeting. Motion to recess the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:30 PM to attend the Town Meeting: Bouchard/Opuszynski; all aye.

Motion to reconvene the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:08 PM:  
**Opuszynski/Gutierro**; all aye.

Logistics: need tables for refreshments

J. Kean will borrow three 8-foot folding tables and 12 folding chairs from the fire house; he will bring trash bin, bags, hay bales and surveyors ribbon.

M. Opuszynski will bring table coverings and festive decorations (mums, pumpkins).

T. Gutierro will bring scarecrow decorations.

A commissioner will need to oversee parking and who may enter the lot during the event.

J. Kean will inquire about getting a fire department trailer with cones for traffic control support.

M. Bouchard will coordinate refreshments (pizza, soda and water) from Beacon Falls Pizza Palace.

Another table will be set up for giveaways: magnets, bags, compasses and literature.

Ribbon cutting on October 19 has no rain date; event will go on rain or shine. Set up will begin at 9:30 AM.

M. Opuszynski will search for a phone application to provide a map of the trail for posting on the web site and will bring paper copies, if possible. He will also get a QR symbol to put on the Lantern Ridge sign and possibly print it on the program which will direct users to the Conservation Commission web site.

N. D'Amico will bring a canopy.

D. Betkoski will have 50 copies of the program printed.

- Discussion of Open Space Inventory -  
M. Bouchard contacted Rich Minnick about the open space map and learned that there was a revised version. He will request the pdf version and print out if possible.

D. Betkoski noted that the open space inventory spreadsheet needs to be updated.

- Update on Open Space Policy  
D. Betkoski contacted First Selectman G. Smith requesting clarification of the Open Space policy; it was still pending.

#### **9. Payment of Invoice**

Motion to accept Clerk Martha Melville's invoice requesting payment of \$76.25 for the September 9, 2013 meeting and associated administrative work and pay the bill as submitted: Opuszynski/Kean; all aye.

#### **10. Announcements/Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 4, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM: D'Amico/Opuszynski; all aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Melville  
Clerk

CC: Conservation Commission members, Board of Selectmen  
Planning & Zoning, Inland Wetlands, Park & Rec Commissions