BEACON FALLS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 17, 2009

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL



A.Sirowich called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:03 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: B. Egan, R. Kunz, S. Ruhl, A. Sirowich, L. Swanson (7:17 PM)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: S. Osowiecki, J. Rodorigo

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Szturma, Selectman Michael Krenesky, Eagle Scout candidate Christopher McLean, Steven McLean

MINUTES

B. Egan called for the approval of the July, 2009 meeting minutes, as submitted.

R. Kunz seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Scott Szturma asked the commission to comment on the wish list of Field Improvements for Pent Road, which the RACBL submitted at the July meeting. A. Sirowich was awaiting specifics from J. Rodorigo on this subject.

OLD BUSINESS

B. Egan motioned to move Sport Leagues to the top of the Agenda. S. Ruhl seconded the motion. All aves.

A. SPORTS LEAGUES

- 1. B. Egan noted that regarding Field Improvements, the discussion is budget driven. Scott Szturma asked how the bidding process works. A. Sirowich clarified that if the RACBL is interested in paying for a project, they are welcome to seek out bids. However Parks and Recreation would oversee any project undertaken at Pent Road. She stressed open channels of communication are necessary.
- 2. Scott Szturma noted that a Babe Ruth League will be coming to town and Field #5 will see more usage and Little League safety issues are at the top of the league's priority list.

B. MATTHIES PARK

- 1. Treatment of the pond is scheduled to take place on Wednesday.
- 2. A. Sirowich reported that J. Rodorigo met with a mason regarding the sluiceways which lead down from the settling ponds and the repair of these sluiceways is no longer a masonry project, but a major construction project. They are over 75 years old. The house on the island, which is also built on concrete, is sinking into the pond.
- 3. These projects will need such major funding, that the commission discussed the need to eventually open the park up to the public, in order to qualify for state and other funding.

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- 4. R. Kunz commented on the TPA Group's Conceptual Design Considerations, requesting clarification on one point, noting the urgency of safety issues around the pond, and asking how strongly Mr. Matthies bequest would be regarded in TPA's process.
- 5. In response, A. Sirowich called for a Special Meeting of the commission to review and comment specifically on the TPA Group document. The meeting is to be held on Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:00 PM in the Matthies Park pavilion.
- 6. The town crew should be installing the grills and trash receptacles at Matthies and the tree line is being cut for the electric power upgrade.
- 7. R. Kunz attended the Park Pals Boating event which was rescheduled and took place August 9th. He commented on the poor attendance for this event. R. Kunz also noted that people appreciated nearer access to the water and stressed the importance of PFDs for these events. Another event is planned in September, which will be publicized and hopefully have greater attendance.

C. PENT ROAD

- 1. The tennis and basketball courts are in the process of being resurfaced and the project is almost complete.
- 2. A. Sirowich reported that J. Rodorigo is getting an estimate on fencing between Field 1 & Field 2. Field 3 & Field 5 infields are being redone. He is also getting a quote on a security system.
- 3. The Junior Hawks have been using the area between Fields 3, 4, & 5 for practice one to two days a week for flag football.

D. <u>PARK ACTIVITIES</u>

- 1. B. Egan reported that the concerts have been going well, with 3 more to go.
- 2. A. Sirowich received feedback on the Multi-Sports camp which was better for the smaller children than for teens and older kids. There was a 12 to 1 counselor to child ratio, which could be improved. A. Sirowich will seek out other vendors for this type of camp next year.
- 3. The Lets Go Girl camp went well and Leadership for Girls did not run. A. Sirowich is considering running a camp like this during school vacation weeks.
- 4. Bulldog Baseball camp is currently running and going well.
- 5. Karate will continue on Monday nights at Laurel Ledge and Yoga continues on Tuesday evenings at 38 Wolfe Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Swanson plans to look into Zmuba which is an aerobics dance class for adults and she will try to schedule classes at Laurel Ledge this fall.

CORRESPONDENCE

The commission received a thank you letter from Karen Hicks, a parent who appreciates the summer offerings for her children and also enjoyed the boating event at Matthies Park.

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APPLICATIONS

The commission received an application from the Beacon Falls Congregational Church for use of the Pent Road pavilion on Saturday, August 22. L. Swanson made a motion to accept the application. B. Egan seconded the motion. All ayes.

GRANTS

Nothing at this time.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

The commission received a bill from the clerk, Erin Schwarz. L. Swanson made a motion to pay the bill. S. Ruhl seconded the motion. All ayes.

BUDGET

Nothing at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

L. Swanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. S. Ruhl seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Eni A Sch

Erin A. Schwarz
Clerk, Park & Recreation Commission