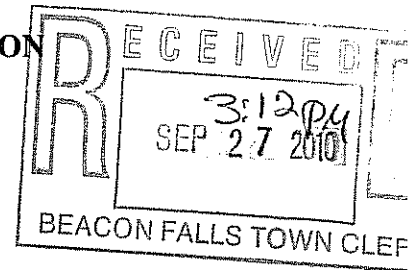


**BEACON FALLS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2010**



SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

CALL TO ORDER

L. Swanson called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:05 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: B. Egan, J. Rodorigo, L. Swanson, A. Sirowich

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: R. Kunz, S. Osowiecki, S. Ruhl

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Groth

MINUTES

A. Sirowich called for the approval of the August Public Hearing Minutes as submitted. B. Egan seconded the motion. All ayes.

B. Egan called for the approval of the August Meeting Minutes as submitted. A. Sirowich seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

With regard to the public hearing which was held in August on the subject of improvements to Matthies Park, Mr. Groth of 13 Laurel Ridge asked if the costs were estimates or firm dollar amounts. J. Rodorigo explained that the work that is outlined in the TPA Group plan has specific dollar amounts cited and itemized, which total \$1.9 million. The remainder of the work, which includes repairs and deferred maintenance to the sluiceways and any work done on the house on the island, are best guess estimates, which are being gathered by the commission and the Selectmen.

Mr. Groth brought information to the commission on some economically profitable options for Toby's Pond and Matthies Park, include the Brownstone Adventure Park and Catamount ropes course. The commission was aware of both ideas, and Brownstone is actively looking at Toby's Pond. With regard to Matthies Park, J. Rodorigo explained the restriction on the original bequest from Mr. Matthies, which expresses his wish for no commercial activity on that property.

Finally, Mr. Groth asked about funding the fireworks for next year and J. Rodorigo explained that Park Pals, which is a 501©3 organization, is seeking to raise \$8,000 by February 1, 2011, so that the Family Day Fireworks celebration can take place in 2011. A press conference was held today and more information on this fundraising drive will be forthcoming.

OLD BUSINESS

A. MATTHIES PARK

1. The Board of Selectmen is in the process of putting together a bond package which will include repairs and improvements to Matthies Park, as discussed in the August public hearing.
2. The Eagle Scout project of the picnic area and bridge is moving forward and designs have been approved and work will begin in early October.
3. Once the Katharine Matthies check is received, 2-3 more bridges can be constructed over the waterways.

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4. The mason has been at Matthies to work on the lower settling pond; however the areas which needed repair, were not prepped for him. The fire department was called in to power wash a portion of the settling ponds, so the mason could continue his work. He is completing \$4,000 worth of work.

B. PENT ROAD

1. Orange Fence will be down at Pent Road working on several projects including a doorway to the basketball courts, dugouts on Field #4, and closing off the batting entrance on Field #3 and addressing the canopy in foul ball territory between Field #1 and Field #2.
2. New soccer goals were not purchased this year.

C. SPORTS LEAGUES

1. Girls' Travel Softball is playing Thursdays and Sundays and the RACBL Fall Ball is using Field #1 through October.
2. Basketball league signups will be coming out shortly. Usage of the school gymnasium is up and the leagues are experiencing tight scheduling.

D. PARK ACTIVITIES

1. A. Sirowich reported that an after school drawing class will begin on Mondays, October 4th and run 8 weeks.
2. For future after school programs, she has been in touch with Rocketeering and Al Consilio's Salmon class will take place on Tuesdays this year.
3. The commission is pursuing a Connecticut Community Foundation grant in order to bring the Eli Whitney Museum after school programs to Beacon Falls.
4. Zumba is on hold until an instructor is found. The commission is getting closer to securing an instructor.
5. Karate has resumed at the school on Monday nights, and Adult Basketball is Monday and Friday evenings.
6. A. Sirowich and Chris Moffo, the Prospect Parks & Recreation Director met, with the Region 16 Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Agostine, to discuss the number of announcements being sent home from Parks & Recreation. The region is interested in helping Parks & Recreation go electronic by generating an email database, so that future mailings will go home via email notice, rather than by paper. This would include notices from Sports Leagues. Region 16 hopes to have this established by mid December.

NEW BUSINESS

1. J.Rodorigo explained that the bond package is being discussed by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance and they are working to determine hard number figures and how the package will be presented to the public. The Commission and Selectmen need to determine what the town hopes to accomplish at Matthies Park with the bond.
2. If order to inform the public prior to the bond package, it would be beneficial to get the TPA Group plan and information out to the public, by putting as much as possible online. The town website has not been updated as requested. The commission decided to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen on this subject.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

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APPLICATIONS

None.

GRANTS

The commission is still awaiting the check from the Katharine Matthies Foundation and follow up is needed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

None.

BUDGET

The Finance Department generated a report for the commission on the pay-for-play checking account; however the report was not available for this meeting. It will be sent to the commissioners under separate cover, as soon as possible.

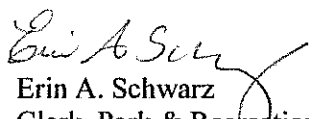
OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

L. Swanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. J. Rodorigo seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin A. Schwarz
Clerk, Park & Recreation Commission

SEP 27 2010