

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MEETING  
JULY 16, 2012**

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

J. Rodorigo called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:24 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: B. Egan, J. Rodorigo, A. Sirowich and D. Sorrentino

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: S. Ruhl, S. Osowiecki

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Krenesky (7:35 PM)

**MINUTES**

**B. Egan made a motion to approve the May, 2012 minutes as submitted. A. Sirowich seconded the motion. B. Egan, A. Sirowich, and J. Rodorigo voted aye. D. Sorrentino abstained.**

There are no minutes for June, as there was no quorum present for the regular June Meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No public present.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. MATTHIES PARK**

1. J. Rodorigo is looking into options for the aeration treatments and raking/dredging of Carrington Pond. All of the options are costly and he has been meeting with representatives from various companies and DEP to look at all the options.
2. Airway Electric will be removing 2 temporary telephone poles from Pent Road and moving them to Matthies Park to the pavilion area, so the pavilion and playground can be lit. The Matthies pavilion continues to be the #1 requested park facility and is being used almost every weekend this summer.
3. Eagle Scout candidate Donald Ferretti is planning on completing a replica of the covered bridge at Matthies Park for his Eagle Scout project.
4. The movie crew has done some filming at the park and plans to return to film out on the island and potentially make some improvements out there.
5. The annual Canoe/Kayak event is scheduled for Saturday, July 21 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

**B. PENT ROAD**

1. M&M Tennis has been contracted to come in and fix the basketball courts.
2. Airway Electric will be removing the 2 temporary telephone poles, as noted above.

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3. Atlas Fence has provided a quotation to complete the netting canopy between Field #1 & #2 totaling \$8,400. The existing netting, which was put up at the start of the spring season, cost around \$20,000 and \$9,000 of the cost came out of this year's 2012-2013 fiscal budget for Grounds Maintenance. As a result, funds are short in this line item and the town may not be available to complete the additional netting project this year.
4. According to the schedule, Field #2 is the next field to be redone and given the field is primarily used as a softball field; the crew is looking to bring the outfield in 20 feet, shortening the clay infield, to create a regulation high school softball field out of Field #2.
5. The mound on Field #5 is also scheduled to be redone, especially as this field is used by high school and older teams, the mound needs more height. General fill and maintenance will take place on Fields #1, 3 & 4.

**C. RIVERBEND PARK**

No update on the status of the grant monies, although all is in order. J. Rodorigo hopes that a check will be written soon, hopefully this fall.

**D. SPORTS LEAGUES**

1. Baseball All-Star teams and Valley Fusion continue to play at Pent Road with the Fusion tournament having just taken place last weekend.
2. There will be two camps at Pent Road this summer: Top Dog Baseball Camp which will run for two weeks and Mike Donnelly Basketball Camp in August.

**E. PARK ACTIVITIES**

1. The Family Day fireworks celebration went well with 20 minutes of fireworks and a good crowd. Acoustic Brew was well-received and J. Rodorigo is handling one complaint regarding busing for the event.
2. Summer Recreation Camp is going well under A. Sirowich's direction. She has 82 campers and has received good feedback from parents/counselors so far.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. The commission received a thank you note for the fireworks celebration.
- B. In correspondence from the Board of Selectmen, both B. Egan and A. Sirowich were reappointed as of July 1, 2012. L. Swanson resignation letter was accepted with regret. D. Sorrentino has been appointed to the commission as of July 1, 2012 and the Board of Selectmen did not reappoint A. Enquist, at her request.
- C. J. Rodorigo opened a letter from Bank of America awarding the Town of Beacon Falls \$15,000 from the Katharine Matthies Foundation for the relocation of a new toddler playground at the Pent Road Recreation Complex.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. J. Rodorigo noted that there is one vacancy on the board and there is a lot to do, so the commission is looking for someone who is willing to plan events and take on new projects.
- B. Capital improvements for the upcoming year are being planned and moving forward.

**APPLICATIONS**

- A. The commission received an application from Woodland High School for soccer for the fall.
- B. There was also a request from Viking baseball to use the fields for one day. Their fee and insurance are all in order.
- C. Prospect Soccer is submitting an application for dates in the fall.

**GRANTS**

- A. The commission plans to apply for another program grant through Connecticut Community Foundation to bring Eli Whitney Workshop after school programs back to Laurel Ledge.
- B. As noted above, the Katharine Matthies grant request was approved and acceptance signed by J. Rodorigo.
- C. J. Rodorigo has been researching grants for dredging and improvement of Carrington Pond. There are no state monies available for ponds/waterways, or for bridges/dams. There are general funds available for trails, which do not apply to Matthies Park because it is not open to the non-residents. Finally, the board can pursue funds once the property is listed on the State Historic Register. However, these funds are in danger of being cut statewide. S. Ruhl submitted the paperwork for the historic register.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

No bills.

**BUDGET**

- A. The books are closed for the 2011/2012 fiscal year and Parks & Recreation spent the majority of the budget, with not a lot of dollars going back into the general fund.
- B. Next fiscal year, the focus will be on the multitude of activities which the board can pursue and capital projects.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. J. Rodorigo would like to have a joint meeting with Chris Moffo from Prospect Parks & Recreation regarding programs and facilities which the two towns can coordinate, particularly with the Woodland pool. Because Chris is a paid employee, his programs are

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often planned far in advance and he reserves Woodland's facilities well ahead of schedule. Beacon Falls needs to meet with him before the start of the school year.

- B. J. Roderigo is looking for assistance this weekend with the Canoe/Kayak event. Park Pals has donated the hot dogs/hamburgers and water, however he needs people to man the grill and help with the refreshments. There is an ad going in the paper for the event.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**B.Egan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. A. Sirowich seconded the motion. All ayes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Erin A. Schwarz  
Clerk, Parks & Recreation Commission