

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 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 7:01 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: J. Rodorigo, S. Ruhl, S. Osowiecki, A. Sirowich, D. Sorrentino, and B. Egan (7:05 PM)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: N/A

D. Sorrentino made a motion to add Nomination of Officers to the Agenda after public comment. A. Sirowich seconded the motion. All ayes.

MINUTES

D. Sorrentino made a motion to approve the October, 2012 meeting minutes, as posted. S. Osowiecki seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public present.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

Both Bob Egan and Joe Rodorigo are eligible to continue as officers for one more year.

D. Sorrentino nominated B. Egan as Vice-Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission. S. Ruhl seconded the nomination of B. Egan as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations. All ayes.

D. Sorrentino nominated J. Rodorigo as Chairman of the Park & Recreation Commission. A. Sirowich seconded the nomination of J. Rodorigo as Chairman. There were no other nominations. All ayes.

Election of officers will be held in December and placed on the agenda for the regular December meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

A. MATTHIES PARK

No old business at the park. Items will be addressed under new business.

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B. PENT ROAD

1. The toddler playground is down and the commission is awaiting direction on how to proceed from the Katharine Matthies Foundation. A follow up with the foundation is needed.
2. J. Rodorigo has a quote on the final stage of the canopy netting and the company who did the previous work, Atlas Fence, would do work in the off-season and wait to be paid during the season.

C. RIVERBEND PARK

The park did not sustain any significant damage from the hurricane. There is no update on the status of the grant monies.

D. SPORTS LEAGUES

1. All the fall sports leagues have completed their seasons. Next spring, there will be new Presidents for both the Baseball and Softball Leagues.
2. S. Osowiecki noted that the Minor League Fall Baseball team went undefeated this spring.
3. Basketball League is up and running and registration numbers are fine for both boys and girls teams. The 6th -8th grade girls' team has good numbers with 31 players.

E. PARK ACTIVITIES

1. A. Sirowich noted that the after school programs running will lead all the way up to Christmas due to the missed classes from the hurricane. Drawing, Bakery, Lego classes, etc. The Laurel Ledge staff will be taking a Cupcake Decorating Class. Spanish was cancelled due to lack of enrollment.
2. S. Ruhl noted that "Find Your Guru" has contacted the Commission via Facebook with a request to teach yoga classes and one of the commissioners will get back to her.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A.** The commission received a letter from the Board of selectmen requesting statement of capital equipment costs for non-recurring items over \$5,000 and needed within the next 5 years. This would take capital equipment out of the Maintenance line item of the budget. J. Rodorigo asked the commissioners for ideas and thoughts and the commissioners will go over capital equipment requests at the December meeting, as this statement is needed to be submitted pre-budget.
- B.** B. Egan received some flyers from bands to be added to the list of concerts.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Storm damage: Tobey's Pond, Riverbend, Pent and Veterans' Park had very minor damage from the hurricane. Matthies Park was greatest hit by Hurricane Sandy with substantial tree damage. A large pine tree near the entrance gate fell over and other trees

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fell on power lines, etc. requiring \$5,000 in significant tree work. The park was closed for 2 weeks and just reopened today. It is unlikely that FEMA will reimburse this work.

- B. The softwood (pine, cedar) is being taken away. There are 10-12 cords of hardwood in big blocks currently at the park and the commissioners discussed ideas of how to disburse this wood. The wood needs to be cut up into manageable pieces. The Boy Scouts may use some for their campsite at Matthies.
- C. J. Roderigo was asked by the Selectmen's Office to research the cost of subcontracting the field maintenance at Pent Road complex to a private firm. He contacted two companies (one in Morris, one in Orange) and received a quotation from one of them to prep fields, infields and pitching mounds, fertilize, weed control, top dress, aeration, etc. for \$22,750 annually. This price did not involve costs of mowing the fields. D. Sorrentino received a quotation years ago to mow the complex for 30-32 cuts per year at \$150-\$180 per cut. The commissioners reviewed these numbers.

APPLICATIONS - No applications at this time.

GRANTS

- A. There are no updates at this time to the Connecticut Community Foundation grant, Katharine Matthies grant or the Riverbend grant.
- B. Karen Ambari is the new liaison for the town with United Way of Naugatuck. She is the person to speak with in order to pursue monies from United Way. J. Roderigo has completed paperwork in the past for leagues and they have not received monies to date.

PAYMENT OF BILLS - No bills at this time.

BUDGET

- A. J. Roderigo received a new report on the Special Activities budget which shows all the monies taken in, however it does not show the monies which have been spent out of this account, so it currently shows only half of the picture. Finance is working to correct this.
- B. There is a new format for the town budget and it will take some practice to understand how to read the report, as it does not show outstanding POs or checks in process. The budget is on track for the year, with some larger expenditures coming in the spring for fields.

OTHER BUSINESS - None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

B.Egan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. S. Osowiecki seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin A. Schwarz
Clerk, Parks & Recreation Commission