

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2013**

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

CALL TO ORDER

J. Rodorigo called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: J. Rodorigo, B. Egan, S. Osowiecki, D. Sorrentino, S. Ruhl (7:15 PM)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: A. Sirowich

OTHERS PRESENT: Jessica DeGennaro

MINUTES

S. Osowiecki made a motion to approve the January, 2013 meeting minutes, as posted. B. Egan seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

A. MATTHIES PARK

1. The park entrance has not been plowed out yet, as it was not a priority after the blizzard. There is nothing currently taking place at the park.
2. There are several community service projects taking place at Matthies Park:
 - A. Boy Scout Troop 104 will be completing 6 fishing line filament receptacles, 2 each for Matthies Park, Tobey's Pond and Riverbend Park. The DEP specifications for these receptacles were provided by Sophie Zyla.
 - B. There is a Troop 104 Eagle Scout project constructing a new bridge at Matthies Park.
 - C. Boy Scout Troop 138 would like to camp out on the island and complete a clean-up of that area. They will take a walk-through in the spring before this project in May/June. D. Sorrentino noted that they need to be aware of the geese nesting on the island at that time.
 - D. Woodland High School's student council will also complete a clean-up of the park area in April.

B. PENT ROAD

1. Nothing is currently happening at Pent Road.
2. J. Rodorigo is still looking into solutions for the netting issue between Fields #1 & #2. He has met with several fencing companies, including Atlas Fence and Beacon Fencing, and he is looking for a cost-effective solution.

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C. RIVERBEND PARK

Both J. Rodorigo and M. Gomez have followed up on the grant and the state has accepted the modifications and accepted the grant. However, the monies have not been received to date. The Riverbend grant is \$100,000 and any monies left over from this grant could be used to expand Volunteer Park.

D. SPORTS LEAGUES

1. There are only a couple of weeks of play for Basketball League and they are working to schedule make-up games, which were lost during the blizzard.
2. Kevin Hicks is the new president of the RACBL.
3. Opening Day for Baseball and Softball Leagues will be Saturday, April 14th.
4. There is still debate as to whether the RACBL will have access to the fields at Laurel Ledge this spring. This is something the league is working out with Region 16.

E. PARK ACTIVITIES

1. B. Egan has booked 6 summer concerts to date: June 15 – Ken Morr Band, June 22 – Flashback, June 29 – Bristol Fiddlers, July 20 – Angelo, July 27 – Rich Bobinski Orchestra, and August 3 – Common Folk
2. Mark Pizzi is interested in conducting spring tennis lessons with a 2 hour “Meet the Pro” event on April 6th at Pent Road.
3. S. Ruhl has arranged a Beacon Falls Parks & Recreation day at the Sound Tigers on Saturday, April 6th at 7:00 PM. It is a game against the CT Whale and the tickets are \$15 each for center ice.
4. There are only a couple of after school programs running at this time: Salmon Class and Drawing. Zumba and karate continue to run on their weekly schedule.
5. Winter Family Swim is beginning at Woodland on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. This is a program which is being run with Prospect Parks & Recreation.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Commission received correspondence from the State on the Emerald Ash Borer and information from Connecticut Pond Services. J. Rodorigo will be in touch with Connecticut Pond Services about Carrington Pond.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. J. Rodorigo received a proposal from Blue Sky Fireworks for the Family Day fireworks display and he is seeking other proposals for comparison. The commissioners discussed the size limit of fireworks based on the distance of the setback seating area.
- B. The commission also needs to think about proposals to the United Way of Naugatuck/Beacon Falls. Beacon Falls has not received much funding from this organization. The sports leagues submitted proposals and the only request which was funded was \$500 for the Beacon Falls Softball League.

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APPLICATIONS

- A. The Commission has received applications for spring field use from the Connecticut Owls and Woodland Regional High School.
- B. The deadline for the field use applications from the leagues will be the next meeting date, March 18th.
- C. The 2013 facilities use application is up on the town website.

GRANTS

- A. A. Sirowich was working on a programming application through CT Community Foundation, which was due February 1, 2013.
- B. The Katharine Matthies Application is due on May 1, 2013.
- C. At the March 18, 2013 Parks & Recreation meeting, J. Rodorigo hopes to make a presentation to a representative from the Katharine Matthies Foundation recognizing the Foundation's contributions to our parks. First Selectman G. Smith will be there to present the award and the press will be invited.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Bills from clerk, Erin Schwarz. **B. Egan made a motion to pay the bills and D. Sorrentino seconded the motion. All ayes.**

BUDGET

As discussed in the January, 2013 meeting, the budget will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen with several line item cuts.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jessica DeGennaro attended the meeting as a member of the public, with interest in becoming a commissioner. First Selectman G. Smith entered the meeting to confirm the vacancy on the board. At the Selectmen's meeting across the hall, the Selectmen voted to appoint Jessica to the Commission, so she is our newest commissioner.

J. DeGennaro is interested in bringing program and events to Beacon Falls and J. Rodorigo explained some of the logistics of how the programming works and the roles that the Parks & Recreation volunteers play in arranging the programs.

ADJOURNMENT

B. Egan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM. D. Sorrentino seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin A. Schwarz
Clerk, Parks & Recreation Commission