

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MARCH 20, 2017**

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

CALL TO ORDER

B. Egan called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00 PM and then led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: B. Egan, D. Brooks, D. Taylor, S. Ruhl, M.E. Fernandes, D. Ferretti

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: A. Sirowich

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

MINUTES

D. Taylor made a motion to approve the February, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes, as presented. M.E. Fernandes seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public was present.

OLD BUSINESS

A. MATTHIES PARK

There is nothing to report at the park. It is quiet at this time.

B. PENT ROAD

1. B. Egan noted that Opening Day is next month and the leagues have begun practicing. When work begins on the fields, one of the major concerns of the baseball league is the flooding behind shortstop on Field #1. Public Works knows about the repairs needed to the field before the baseball season begins.
2. On Field #2, B. Egan will look into any issues with the Girls scoreboard and access to the booth
3. The commission is still exploring moving the light switch controls to the outside of the Sugar Shack. An electrician has provided a quote for running electricity to the lower pavilion at Pent Road and that will proceed.
4. An Adult Men's Basketball League is looking at holding games on Friday night at Pent Road. B. Egan advised them to complete an application to reserve the courts at Pent Road.

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C. RIVERBEND PARK

1. The opening ceremony for Riverbend Park is Tuesday, April 5th at 5:00 PM. The committee is conducting a clean-up of the park on Saturday, March 25th from 9:00 AM until Noon. D. Ferretti stated that the Boy Scout Troop will be there to help.
2. Beavers continue to be an issue at the park by taking down trees. Lights and signs are in and the park is opening as fishing season begins.

D. SPORTS LEAGUES

1. Basketball League is over.
2. April 22nd is Opening Day for RACBL. B. Egan is waiting for information on the opening day for softball.
3. Applications are coming in from the leagues.

E. PARK ACTIVITIES

1. **HOLISTIC WELLNESS EVENT:** D. Brooks wants to move forward with the Holistic Wellness Event but she is in need of a rain location. Vendors have been responsive but they have requested a plan in the event of rain. D. Brooks showed the group a preliminary rendering of the banner.
2. D. Brooks did not get the grant from CCF for the event because they were supporting similar programs. Therefore, she is looking into free advertising options and to save money on printing costs where she can.
3. D. Brooks had other questions about providing electricity to the vendors and the commissioners explained where there is power on the fields. S. Ruhl will ask for space at Woodland Regional High School through Region 16 to provide a rain space.
4. D. Brooks will move forward with letters to food truck vendors and wellness vendors.
5. B. Egan reported that the annual fishing derby is scheduled for April 29th. It will be from 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM at Matthies Park for children 15 and under. St. Michaels Men's Club will provide the food.
6. Zumba for Kids is conducting another 5 week session.
7. Fireworks, Canoe/Kayak, and Cardboard Boat race will be July 8th. S. Ruhl reported that Atlas Fireworks is booked for the Family Day Fireworks event. D. Ferretti is working on ribbons and prize oars for the Cardboard Boat Race. S. Ruhl will contact Mainstream Kayak about the canoe/kayak day which will be 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM at Matthies. You can also bring your own kayak or canoe, as Matthies is always open for canoes and kayaks. Gates will be open which solved the problem of access to the pond.
8. B. Egan has booked 7 concerts and will fill most of the Saturdays in June, July and August as budget allows. All concerts will be at 6:00 PM on St. Michael's Green. He has booked: 81 South Band, Ken Morr Band, Angelo, Wasting Bullets, Rich Bobinski Orchestra, The Kerry Boys and the Totally Unrehearsed Band.
9. A. Sirowich stated last month that Summer Recreation camp will be July 10 – August 11th.

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10. S. Ruhl is planning on running Play-Well Technologies Lego camp again this summer. Play-Well would like to have an indoor location booked this year, so he will look into Woodland as an option.

NEW BUSINESS

D. Ferretti asked about citizens wishing to rent the big inflatable movie screen for a graduation party. The commission does not have a policy in place for lending this equipment. The screen is usable but the projection equipment is not working properly, cords are missing and it needs to be sorted out. The commission needs to work on a hold harmless agreement and develop a policy for loaning the equipment. They have accepted donations in the past for usage of their equipment.

CORRESPONDENCE

B. Egan circulated a letter inviting the commission to the Riverbend Park opening.

APPLICATIONS

B. Egan has received the following applications for review:

- Woodland Regional High School Baseball and Softball
- RACBL
- Valley Girls Softball
- Valley Fusion – An insurance form is needed to complete the application.
- United Day School wishes to use the Recreation Complex for 1 day in the summer
- May 6th is the Lions Club 5k at Pent Road in memory of Jill Betkoski – B. Egan will make sure the leagues are aware of the 5k so there are no conflicts and they will be able to play ball that afternoon.
- Ryan Matthews for Susie Foundation Kickball Tournament– with September 2017 dates – an insurance form is also needed.

GRANTS

A firm idea is needed for the Katharine Matthies Foundation grant which is due May 1st.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

None at this time.

BUDGET

B. Egan submitted the Parks & Recreation budget lines and he will appear before the Board of Finance at their March 30th workshop to explain the changes. He kept most of the line items flat, but he requested an increase to the following lines:

- Part Time Seasonal Help – Due to the minimum wage increase to \$10.10/hour the summer recreation staff counselors hourly wage needs to increase.
- Basketball – From \$1,000 to \$1,400 due to the additional cost of insurance for the league

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- Concerts - \$200 increase to cover increased cost of concerts. Bands keep increasing their rates each summer.

OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

D. Ferretti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. M.E. Fernandes seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin A. Schwarz
Clerk, Parks & Recreation Commission