

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JULY 17, 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 7:01 PM and then led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: B. Egan, D. Taylor, A. Sirowich, M.E. Fernandes, D. Brooks

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: D. Ferretti, S. Ruhl

OTHERS PRESENT: None

MINUTES

A. Sirowich made a motion to approve the June, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. D. Taylor seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public was present.

OLD BUSINESS

1. MATTHIES PARK

1. M.E. Fernandes noted that there are still issues in Matthies Park with people not cleaning up after their horses. People should be cleaning up after themselves. The signs have been fixed and look good.
2. B. Egan cautioned the commissioners not to confront anyone in the parks and to leave issues to the police to take care of. The commissioners should simply notify the town of any issues.

2. PENT ROAD

1. The Family Day Fireworks took place on July 11th and there were some issues with the park not being ready for the day – The trailer was not there for the musicians and the commissioners did not have access to the Sugar Shak to turn the lights off. The fireworks themselves went well.
2. There have been some issues at the basketball courts with mostly out-of-town players using inappropriate language and blaring adult lyrics. The commission would ask that the police patrol the parks more frequently. If issues continue, they would consider limiting use of the courts.
3. The Public Works crew assembled the snow fence blocking field access on the Thursday before the fireworks. The snow fence blocks off Fields 3-5 and a Babe Ruth team had a practice/game scheduled, so they took down the fence so they could play. Public Works then had to work overtime on Saturday to put the fence back up. B. Egan explained to the league they are not to touch the fields and is considering

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billing the team for the overtime required to reassemble the fence. In the past, the fields have been closed for 48 hours prior to the fireworks and this policy should be reinstated and well-noted by the leagues.

3. RIVERBEND PARK

1. At the park, they are spraying for knotweed. They are very invasive plants, which need to be cut down.
2. There are two companies interested in an Adopt a Park program for Riverbend – EJ Smith and Gabe’s. B. Egan is continuing to research what would be needed to put the program in place for Beacon Falls.

4. SPORTS LEAGUES

1. All Stars tournaments will continue into the summer months.
2. During the week of August 18th, A. Sirowich noted there will be Girls’ High School Soccer summer pre-season camp.

5. PARK ACTIVITIES

1. The Cardboard Boat race took place on Family Day with 6 boats piloted by kids and 1 adult boat.
2. Canoe/kayak event was not as busy as it has been in the past but those who participated enjoyed the event.
3. As mentioned above, the fireworks went well, but there is a need for more food vendors. The commission has traditionally limited the vendors to local non-profits. The Sugar Shack was not open and there was a mix-up which led to 2 ice cream trucks competing for business. B. Egan noted that he and S. Ruhl were putting together points which need to be sorted out for next year.
4. Summer Concerts are rolling along and Wasting Bullets was great with the best attendance so far. B. Egan confirmed that next year the Men’s Club wants to move the concerts to mid-week and hold them from 7:00 – 8:30 PM
5. Swim Lessons were held the last week of June with the help of Jessica DeGennaro and Mike Magas. The event loses money but it is important to offer.
6. A. Sirowich reported there are 110 campers at Summer Recreation Camp and she is still using the upper pavilion for shade on rainy days. Camp is going well and her staff has been excellent.
7. Community Media Center will be meeting in the coming week or so, to further discuss 35 Wolfe Avenue, which has been getting some press lately.

NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

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APPLICATIONS

1. B.Egan has been processing the applications regularly. He has approved a birthday party at Pent Road, WRHS Fall Sports leagues, and Jr. Hawks football team applications have come in. There is a wedding at Matthies on September 16th. The Suzie Foundation kickball tournament will take place September 16 & 17.
2. The Collegiate Baseball team is playing on Field #5 and they have games throughout the summer.

GRANTS

We are awaiting a decision on the Katharine Matthies grant application for \$7,500 for picnic tables, grills and trees at Riverbend Park. We should receive word over the summer.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

No bills at this time. E. Schwarz is still looking for someone to train to take over as clerk for the Parks & Recreation Commission.

BUDGET

The budget passed by 2 votes and contains no monies for sports subsidies this fiscal year. Recreation programs have been but to \$3,000. Fireworks would need to be paid for out of the Special Activities account.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

M.E. Fernandes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM. D. Taylor seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin A. Schwarz
Clerk, Parks & Recreation Commission