

BEACON FALLS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting
August 21, 2017

B. Egan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: B. Egan, D. Taylor, M.E. Fernandes, B. Egan, S. Ruhl, D. Brooks (7:04 PM)

Members Absent: A. Sirowich

Others Present: Ruth and Phil Burritt of the Conservation Commission

Approval of Minutes: M.E. Fernandes had a question about the July minutes regarding concerts next year. She asked if it was definitely decided that the concerts will move to Wednesday night. B. Egan explained that the Men's Club wants to move the concerts to Wednesdays. **D. Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes and M.E. Fernandes seconded the motion. All ayes.**

Public Comment: R. Burritt introduced herself and her husband. She is the new Chairman of the Conservation Commission and they are here to listen. B. Egan welcomes them.

Old Business

- A. **Matthies Park:** There is nothing going on at the park right now. M. E. Fernandes mentioned that the parking lot at Matthies is still a mess. B. Egan reminded the commissioners not to confront anyone but to take any issues to the Police Department.
- B. **Pent Road:** Field 1 is closed this week and next week because it is being redone and the pitchers mound it being rebuilt. *D. Brooks entered the meeting at 7:04 PM.*

B. Egan noted that the basketball players have been behaving better as of late and the courts remain open. Repairs may be needed to the hoops. There are still complaints about language on the courts. B. Egan reminded commissioners again not to confront members of the public.

- C. **Sports Leagues:** RACBL may have a new incoming President and their fall schedule will begin soon. There is a high school soccer clinic happening this month. Woodland Junior Hawks will be using the fields this fall.

B. Egan mentioned that Fields #3 though #5 are not getting a rest and the fields are taking a beating from so much use. Fields are being used by 3 sports from April through October – baseball, softball, football and soccer. Next year the parks crew might consider shutting down the fields for August to aerate them.

- D. **Parks Activities:** The concerts are complete. Attendance was down slightly, so next year we will move the concerts to Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30 PM.

Jessica DeGennaro is holding Volleyball camp this week with 22 participants. She is donated 10% of the proceeds from the camp to Parks & Recreation. The Summer Recreation Camp is over and 110 students participated.

- E. Community Media Center – S. Ruhl noted they are meeting next Monday and discussing putting a question on the November ballot about the house. They need some kind of survey showing

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town support. D. Brooks asked if there was any information in a flyer format that could be handed out. S. Ruhl directed her to the library for information. When plans for a Community Media Center were initially discussed B. Egan noted that Library Director Sue Dowdell met with him to see what Parks & Recreation would want to see in the building. Basketball courts were on the wish list and the building was also thought to be a possible emergency shelter. The building's purpose needs to be further defined.

New Business

Correspondence: None at this time.

Applications:

B. Egan is working on processing the following applications:

- Collegiate Baseball League uses Field #5 in the fall.
- Woodland Junior Hawks application was approved
- Prospect Soccer – Waiting for an application
- Flag Football – Waiting for an application
- There are 2 events this weekend – Birthday party at Matthies Park and a picnic at Pent Road.

D. Brooks asked how someone would go about applying for use of the pavilion at Pent Road. B. Egan told her the Facilities Application is on the website and \$1,000,000 insurance is needed either through the applicant's Homeowners policy or through a separate policy available through the Town's insurer CIRMA and their TULIP program. Details are on the application.

Regarding facilities, B. Egan noted that there are portolets at Matthies and if you rent at Pent Road, the bathrooms are open for you.

Grants

We received a \$7,500 grant from Katharine Matthies Foundation for grills, picnic tables and trees at Riverbend Park. The town has removed some diseased trees there recently. They have also sprayed for invasive knotweed and beavers continue to destroy some of the hardwood trees there.

Bills: No bills.

Budget: Nothing to report at present. We are beginning still at the beginning of the budget year.

Adjourn: S. Ruhl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. D. Ferretti seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Schwarz