

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
DECEMBER 18, 2017**

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

S. Ruhl 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: D. Ferretti, S. Ruhl, D. Brooks, D. Taylor, M.E. Fernandes

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: A. Sirowich, B. Egan

OTHERS PRESENT: Jill Fitzpatrick from Beacon Falls Karate

**MINUTES**

**D. Brooks made a motion to approve the December, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. M.E. Fernandes seconded the motion. All ayes.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nominations took place last month and there were no other nominations for the chair positions. S. Ruhl is the new chairman and B. Egan is the vice chairman.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jill Fitzpatrick from Beacon Falls Karate presented the commissioners with the attached letter. She is gauging the commission's interest in partnering with Beacon Falls Karate to offer a karate program. Beacon Falls Karate has their own facility for classes and they were hoping to offer a reduced rate for students who come to them through Parks & Recreation. In turn, the commission can help with advertising their programs. Beacon Falls Karate has a Facebook page and has been in business for 4 years. They would like to expand their presence in town and get more involved. She fielded questions from the board members about the programs that Beacon Falls Karate offers for children and adults. S. Ruhl asked her to put together a proposal and a flyer and return next month, so the commission can consider the idea further.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. MATTHIES PARK**

1. M. E. Fernandes noted that the large tree is still down behind the playground at Matthies.
2. The trails markings are complete and they are noticeable.

**B. PENT ROAD**

1. No activity at Pent Road at this time of year.

**C. RIVERBEND PARK**

1. Holiday decorations are up at Riverbend and look good.

**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
DECEMBER 18, 2017**

2. The park continues to be well utilized.

**D. SPORTS LEAGUES**

1. The basketball League is up and running.

**E. PARK ACTIVITIES**

1. S. Ruhl has had conversations with the Fire Department about moving the fireworks to Main Street by the police station. He will be meeting with Atlas Pyrotechnics and our Fire Marshal, Eddie Rodriguez, to discuss the feasibility about the change in location.
2. Project Purple recently had a food truck event at that end of Main Street, which was successful. The fireworks could follow the same format with parking along Main Street, a band at the Firehouse, and food truck vendors.
3. The venue would eliminate the need for busing, bring in revenue from food truck vendors and draw attention to Main Street. The event will be July 7, 2018 and he will know more after meeting with the fireworks company.
4. S. Ruhl also noted that there is potential to move the Rimmon Hill Schoolhouse to the same section of Main Street by the police station. The current owners of the property may be willing to donate the building to the Beacon Falls Historical Society, if it can be relocated.
5. D. Brooks asked about the potential for Toby's Pond as a venue to rent kayaks on the weekends. She believes the park has so much potential, but maintenance on the park has been difficult.

**F. COMMUNITY MEDIA CENTER**

1. M. E. Fernandes stated there is a need to get people in town behind the idea of a community media center. While the project is treading water, if people showed support, then it is possible to light a fire and move the project forward.

D. Brooks exited the meeting at 7:25 PM.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**2018 FACILITY APPLICATION**

- A. The commission discussed adding language to help prevent league coaches and volunteers from damaging the fields by applying too much Speedy-Dry or other materials, which can ruin the fields and create problems with the lip to the outfield. This year one team removed the fence that was put up for safety for the fireworks display.



**BEACON FALLS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
DECEMBER 18, 2017**

The suggestion was to add language which states the leagues using the fields will be held responsible for damage to the fields. The league will be charged for damages and repeated violations will result to revoking their use of the facilities”

- B. The board members discussed travel teams and at which point a team becomes a resident team. They determined “A resident team must have at least 5 Beacon Falls resident players on the roster.”
- C. The language for the 2018 application will be finalized in January.

**APPLICATIONS**

B. Egan has been processing applications regularly. There was a request to use Pent Road for a walking event in January, weather permitting.

**GRANTS**

Trees have been planted at Riverbend Park as part of the Katharine Matthies grant. Picnic tables will be ordered in the spring.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

None at this time.

**BUDGET**

Nothing to review at this time.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Marla Scirpo is willing to take over as clerk of the commission in March.
- B. The town has credit card readers for Parks & Recreation activities. People will be able to pay for programs by credit card in the Finance Office and the First Selectman’s Office, and online if that can be set up.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**M.E. Fernandes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM. D. Ferretti seconded the motion. All ayes.**

Respectfully submitted,



Erin A. Schwarz  
Clerk, Parks & Recreation Commission

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12/05/2017

Beacon Falls Park and Recreation Committee  
10 Maple Ave.  
Beacon Falls, CT 06403

Dear Mr. Egan and Fellow Park and Recreation Committee Members,

We are contacting you to formally introduce our business, Beacon Falls Karate and Fitness, LLC, and to suggest we partner to build on the Park and Recreation offerings to the citizens of Beacon Falls. Martial Arts is a lifelong pursuit that has the ability to develop confidence and self-discipline in all ages and skill levels. As part of the local community for more than 10 years, we now feel that we have established ourselves enough to be able to offer more to our community.

Beacon Falls Karate and Fitness offers quality instruction from dedicated instructors and fellow Martial Artists at affordable rates. We also have:

- A Fully Padded/Insured, Air Conditioned Facility
- 2 Instructors (one male/one female) with 10+ years of Martial Arts Teaching Experience Each
- 3 Programs for Students Starting at Age 3
  - Little Dragons 3-6yrs old
  - Beginners 6 and up
  - Intermediate and Advanced
- Separate Adult Classes

We would like to speak with you about how Beacon Falls Karate and Fitness, LLC can help grow the offerings of the Beacon Falls Park and Recreation Committee and provide opportunities for the citizens in our community.

With Kind Regards,

Jill Fitzpatrick and Howard Daniels III  
Owners/Head Instructors  
Beacon Falls Karate and Fitness, LLC