

**Beacon Falls Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**10 Maple Avenue**  
**Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



**BEACON FALLS PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**August 20, 2018**  
**MINUTES**  
**(Subject to Revision)**

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Alliance**

Present: Steve Ruhl, Mary Ellen Fernandes, Donna Taylor, and Don Ferretti

Not Present: Bob Egan, Desiree Brooks and Allison Sirowich

Others Present: Allan Banyacsky and Steve Moffat, Public Works

Chairman Steve Ruhl called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held on July 16, 2018 as submitted by the clerk for tonight's meeting: **Fernandes/Taylor**; no discussion; all ayes.

**3. Comments from the Public**

S. Ruhl noted that there was an invitation posted on Facebook, inviting everyone to attend tonight's meeting to discuss the town fireworks being cancelled. There was no one from the public in attendance.

Fran Burkowsky was present at tonight's meeting to discuss flag football. F. Burkowsky indicated that there were 2 teams interested in forming flag football teams. S. Ruhl mentioned that the league is run out-of-town but the kids that are interested are mostly from Beacon Falls. F. Burkowsky asked if the teams would come under the Region 16 insurance. S. Ruhl asked if the league is a school activity and F. Burkowsky indicated that it was not. S. Ruhl noted that the fee could be waived since the majority of the kids are from Beacon Falls. S. Ruhl asked if the teams were looking to use the area between Field 3 & Field 4. F. Burkowsky indicated yes. S. Ruhl reiterated that the teams couldn't interfere with the other teams already scheduled for the fields.

Motion to waive the fee for the Oxford Flag Football League and that the League provide their own insurance: **Fernandes/Ferretti**; no discussion; all ayes.

Eric Pulkkinen was present at tonight's meeting to update the Members on the baseball league. E. Pulkkinen indicated that practice will be starting this week if the Members granted approval and S. Ruhl indicated that it would be ok to begin practices. E. Pulkkinen asked about having dugouts on Field 4, similar to how it is on Field 1. S. Ruhl indicated that the dugouts would not be a town expenses and suggested that E. Pulkkinen contact R. Pruzinsky. E. Pulkkinen noted that they have been getting many compliments at the conditions of the fields. S. Moffat added that with the wet season that we have been having, Field 3 & Field 4 need some work and will be done in the next few weeks.

Allan Banyacsky was present at tonight's meeting to update the Members on Matthies Park. A. Banyacsky indicated that Matthies Park is still closed and trail work is on hold until the park is reopened. A. Banyacsky indicated that there is a significant amount of overgrowth that is blocking the outfalls and access road. A. Banyacsky noted that the park could use a mowing, and that the brush is starting to encroach on the vehicle tracks. A. Banyacsky indicated that he will start to clear the trail around the pond when the heat and humidity is gone and noted that there have been a lot of ticks.

Allan Banyacsky mentioned that the Selectmen presented him with a plaque in recognition of the work he has been doing at Matthies Park and Toby's Pond.

Linda Jasinski was present at tonight's meeting to discuss a letter the Garden Club received from Rich Minnick. The letter was regarding the removal of the knotweed and new plantings to be planted in its place. L. Jasinski indicated that the Garden Club plants the plantings but questioned who will be the ones to maintain the plantings. There was also a question about "Adopt-A-Spot" and if that was something that could be done. S. Ruhl indicated that it could and businesses are welcomed to do this.

Travis Hopkins, a Boy Scout, was present at tonight's meeting to inform the Members that he is looking for contact information and ideas for his Eagle Project. His goal is for completion by the end of September.

Steve Moffat, a town resident and a town employee, wanted to congratulate all the volunteers in town with the great work that they do. S. Moffat noted that the projects in the parks are a great idea but end up as a maintenance job for the town sometime in the future.

#### **4. Old Business**

##### **a. Matthies Park**

S. Ruhl indicated that the park is still closed but it is close to having the front part only reopening. S. Ruhl noted that there are still some hazardous areas.

**b. Pent Road Recreation Complex**

S. Ruhl indicated that Fall Ball will be starting soon and there is a lot of competition and interest in using Field 3, Field 4, and Field 5.

**c. Riverbend Park**

S. Ruhl indicated that B. Egan was not present to give an update on Riverbend Park.

**d. Sports League Reports**

S. Ruhl indicated that there is nothing to report from the Sports League – a little slow right now.

**e. Park Activities / Miscellaneous**

S. Ruhl indicated that a meeting was held with Susan from the YMCA in Naugatuck is regards to having a running club, yoga after dropping off children for school, etc. There will be a meeting on 09/11/2018 at 5:00 PM to discuss the different options.

**f. Community Media Center Update**

S. Ruhl indicated that there is nothing to report from the Community Media Center.

**g. Toby's Pond**

**5. New Business**

There was no new business discussed at tonight's meeting.

**6. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received for tonight's meeting.

**7. Applications**

There was an application received from the Baseball League.

**8. Grant Information**

There was no discussion on Grant Information at tonight's meeting.

## **9. Review and Payment of Bills**

There was an invoice from Jessica DeGennaro, the summer volleyball camp instructor, for \$2,830.00.

There were invoices from Allison Sirowich submitted for summer rec. supplies in the amount of \$894.97 and \$149.97.

There was an invoice from the Commission's clerk received for tonight's meeting. The invoice is for the July 16, 2018 meeting and in the amount of \$77.50.

There was an invoice from Dom Ferretti submitted for supplies and trophies purchased for Family Fun Day in the amount of \$84.24.

Motion to approve and pay the invoices as submitted for tonight's meeting: **Fernandes/Taylor**; no discussion; all ayes.

## **10. Budget**

The budget was not received for tonight's meeting. S. Ruhl mentioned that the deposit for this year's fireworks will be used towards next year's.

## **11. Executive Session (if needed)**

The Commission did not enter into Executive Session tonight.

## **12. Adjournment**

S. Ruhl asked the Members if there were any other discussions for tonight's meeting and there were none.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 P.M.: **Taylor/Fernandes**; no discussion; all ayes.

**The next regular meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2018, starting at 7:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo  
Clerk, Parks and Recreation Commission