

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



BEACON FALLS PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting
April 15, 2019
REVISED MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Alliance

Present: Steve Ruhl, Don Ferretti, Bob Egan, and Steve Moffat

Not Present: Mary Ellen Fernandes, Desiree Brooks, and Donna Taylor

Others Present: Allan Banyacsky and Sophie Zyla

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 March 18, 2019, as submitted: Egan/Ferretti; no discussion; all ayes.

3. Comments from the Public

Sophie Zyla was present at tonight's meeting to update the Commission on her work at Matthies Park. S. Zyla provided a list of what has been purchased/planted in Matthies Park. S. Zyla indicated that she met with the Rotary Club several times and the club will be helping fund the Little Free Library that she is proposing. S. Zyla noted that the free library's plan is to be a kiosk with a reference shelf, journal with sightings, and a shelf of take-a-book/leave-a-book. S. Moffat asked if there is a plan for what the kiosk is going to look like. S. Zyla indicated that her plan is to have it made from wood, a shingled roof, and artwork on the sides.

D. Ferretti noted that anything done in the park should have a plan presented to this Commission for our approval. S. Moffat noted his concern with a bench and stones that were done in bright colors. S. Moffat noted that the colors should be toned down in order to preserve the nature of the park. S. Zyla indicated that it was done as a Senior Project by one of the Woodland High School students and if the Commission has any questions, they should speak with Jessica Rodrigo-Classey. S. Ruhl noted that the statue needs to be taken out since it is a religious artifact on town property and there was never an application submitted/received for the Zen Garden to be done. S. Zyla mentioned that an application was never done and the student just went ahead with doing the Zen Garden for her Senior Project. S. Ruhl indicated that he will be speak with someone at Region 16 or Woodland High School due to the breakdown in communications in not having an application submitted for a project done on town property. S. Zyla noted that she will have J. Rodrigo-Classey contact the Commission.

After a brief discussion, D. Ferretti and S. Moffat requested a plan for the kiosk for the Little Free Library to be submitted for the Commission's review and approval. S. Zyla noted that she would like to redo the GoFundMe page since it is under the Conservation Commission. S. Zyla also noted that she registered Matthies Park on the Pollinator Pathway.

After a brief discussion, D. Ferretti indicated that he would like to see a plan or map of what has been done in Matthies Park by S. Zyla and where everything is.

Allan Banyacsky was present at tonight's meeting to update the Commission on Matthies Park, Toby's Pond, and Lantern Ridge. A. Banyacsky indicated that out of the seven trails, two remain closed – the Blue trail on the south side and the Orange trail on the north side. A. Banyacsky noted that he will be clearing without machinery until Public Works has an opportunity to get the excavator.

A. Banyacsky also noted that he blazed two new trails and they will be added to the electronic trail map posted on TRAP's Facebook page. A. Banyacsky mentioned that someone has been blazing and marking their own trails and this makes it very confusing for hikers and emergency personal.

Allan Banyacsky noted that he will be conducting a volunteer work party to perform trail work and clean-up at Toby's Pond on April 27th, from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM. A. Banyacsky also noted that he toured the tornado damage at Lantern Ridge with two members of the Conservation Commission and provided his inputs regarding train clean-up, volunteers vs. contractors, and offered his services for mapping and marking.

A. Banyacsky presented a sample of markings for the trails made from PVC for the Commission to approve. The Members liked the markers that were presented.

4. Old Business

a. Matthies Park

S. Ruhl noted that an update was provided by A. Banyacsky during Comments from the Public.

b. Pent Road Recreation Complex

S. Ruhl noted that Opening Day was rained out. S. Moffat also noted that the footings are in for the backstops, and they will be set in concrete, sit for a couple of days, then set the nets. The repairs should be close to done or complete by the end of the week.

c. Riverbend Park

S. Ruhl indicated that there was nothing new to update the Member on Riverbend Park.

d. Sports League Reports

S. Ruhl indicated that baseball and softball are practicing. S. Ruhl noted that the Sugar Shack has its permit and is ready to go. S. Moffat noted that the light switches were moved from the kitchen to the storage closet.

e. Park Activities / Miscellaneous

S. Ruhl indicated that there will be a meeting with the Naugatuck YMCA is regards to discussing the organization take over the Summer Program in 2020. B. Egan noted that the Fishing Rodeo will be held on April 27th, from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM, and that the fish have been ordered for the event.

B. Egan indicated that the Summer Concerts have been scheduled and there may be a sponsor for some or all of the concerts. B. Egan noted that the concerts will be on Wednesday nights and the St. Michael Men's Club will be selling food.

S. Ruhl noted that the fireworks will be held on July 13th and Family Day will be held that day as well. The events will be held at the rec field. S. Ruhl also noted that the Commission will be sponsoring a Can-Jam League in Matthies Park to be held on Tuesday and Friday nights. The league will be starting sometime after Memorial Day.

f. **Community Media Center Update**

g. **Toby's Pond**

S. Ruhl indicated that there is no activity at 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**

S. Ruhl indicated that there were no applications received for tonight's meeting.

8. **Grant Information**

S. Ruhl indicated that there were no updates on the Grant Information.

9. **Review and Payment of Bills**

There was an invoice from the Commission's clerk received for tonight's meeting. The invoice is from March 18, 2019 in the amount of \$69.00.

Motion to approve and pay the invoice from the Commission's clerk as submitted for tonight's meeting in the amount of \$69.00: **Ferretti/Egan**; no discussion; all ayes.

Allan Banyacsky remitted an invoice for \$54.45 as reimbursement on supplies he purchased for the trails at Matthies Park.

Motion to approve and pay the invoice from Allan Banyacsky for reimbursement of supplies purchased for the trails at Matthies Park in the amount of \$54.45: Egan/Ferretti; no discussion; all ayes.

10. Budget

The budget was reviewed at tonight's meeting.

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 8:34 P.M.: Egan/Moffat; no discussion; all ayes.

The next regular meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2019, starting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Parks and Recreation Commission