

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

2015 MAR 27 P 2: 51

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

### Minutes

RECEIVED

**PRESENT:** Meghan O'Connor, Angelo Franzese, Patrick Morton, Bill Pullan, Gary Regan, Lou Valenti, and Eileen Earle.

**ABSENT:** Laura Ferguson and Rachael McGrath.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meghan O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval of the minutes for November 19, 2014 was accepted on a motion by Lou Valenti, seconded by Angelo Franzese, abstained by Laura Ferguson and Bill Pullan, and then approved by the remaining members.

Approval of the minutes for January 7, 2015 was accepted on a motion by Pat Morton, seconded by Lou Valenti, abstained by Angelo Franzese and Gary Regan, and then approved by the remaining members.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, PAYROLL AND INCOME:** The Expenditures Report was reviewed and adjustments will be made to the Office Expense and Programs Account. The Cash balance report shows an increase of \$4,349 over this same time last March. On a motion by Angelo Franzese and seconded by Gary Regan, the Cash Balance Report was accepted and unanimously approved by all members present.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**PROGRAMS:** The Basketball season ended in February. It was a good season with a large turnout of students for the High School League. We are presently in our 3<sup>rd</sup> week of our Spring Programs with Tennis and Babysitting classes starting this Saturday.

The Summer Playground Camp flyer has been posted on our website. As recommended by the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen the camp fees were increased by \$25.00 per session. Registration for Summer Playground Camps will start April 21<sup>st</sup> in the Parks and Rec. Office. Rachael is accepting and reviewing applications for summer camp opportunities. She is also at a conference this week to learn the latest fun and games for our summer camps this year!

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- We will continue to issue parking permits for Meckauer Park to residents and non-residents at no fee.
- Meckauer Park Pavilion rental fee will remain at \$25.00, available to Bethel residents only.
- Bethel Bark Park will open May 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. The fence was installed by Exterior Design Landscaping with donations from the girl scouts, townspeople and a generous donation from Peter Amaral of Exterior Design. Work continues as the ground where the old swing sets were removed, need to have soil added, then seeded. Signs and waste stations have been ordered and will be installed in April. The director is working with the Boy Scouts to have a shade structure built and the Girl Scouts for benches also to be installed in May/June.
- Athletic field usage for all Youth team sports will start April 6<sup>th</sup> at the earliest, weather permitting.
- High School teams sports will start practicing outside next week, weather permitting.
- The H.S. football field/stadium will have netting installed at the end zones and sidelines to prevent the lacrosse balls from hitting people on the track.
- The tracker over-seeder was ordered last week.

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**DIRECTOR'S REPORT continued:**

- The John Demille Firecracker 5k Road Race will be on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> this year. In honor of our 50<sup>th</sup> year we will also have a 10k race, which is what the race was originally. The start and finish line will be on School Street this year instead of P.T. Barnum Square.
- Bethel Softball Association insurance will be covered under our NRPA insurance, with BSA paying the fee required for their athletes.

**BUDGET:** The expense to purchase benches and garbage cans for the downtown area was moved from the Parks and Rec. Budget and also reduced \$10,000 by the Board of Selectmen. Capital Equipment approval was received for the Trailer and the Top Dresser. Capital Improvement Plan approval received for the Rubino Property.

**TOURNAMENTS:**

- BBA will have a tournament Memorial Day Weekend for ages 10/12.
- BBA Al Leonard Tournament is June 6 - 21.
- District Tournament is June 12 -25 for 10/12 years old.
- BYSA tournament is Columbus Day weekend.
- BSA tournament is at the end of the season, July 30.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Lou Valenti made a motion which was seconded by Pat Morton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The next Parks and Rec. Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Beote, Recording Secretary