

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Minutes

PRESENT: Meghan O'Connor, Angelo Franzese, Patrick Morton, Bill Pullan, Gary Regan, Rachael McGrath and Eileen Earle.

ABSENT: Laura Ferguson and Lou Valenti.

CALL TO ORDER: Meghan O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of the minutes for May 27, 2015 were read and accepted on a motion by Pat Morton, seconded by Bill Pullan, abstained by Angelo Franzese and Gary Regan, 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 a decrease over this same time last year but will even out as there are still deposits to be made my June 30. On a motion by Gary Regan and seconded by Angelo Franzese, the Cash Balance Report was accepted and unanimously approved by all members present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- \$75.00 Parks & Rec. gift certificate donation: Thank you received from St. Mary School and the 2015 Coming Home Dinner Dance/Auction. This event was in support of their effort to continue to provide a Blue Ribbon education for their students.
- \$75.00 Parks & Rec. gift certification donation: Thank you received from St. Thomas Episcopal Church for our continued support of their auction.
- Letter from David J. Perkins of Bethel, past 8 years has been tapping the Sugar Maple trees on the Rubino property that was donated to the town. The Trees are along Hawleyville Road and the stone wall that borders the property line of Gary Raymond. The trees are tap in late Feb./April and will not interfere with practices. As we have no plans to take the trees down, Pat Morton made a motion to approve the continued use of Mr. Perkins to tap the trees, second by Angelo Franzese then approved by all members present.
- Beth Cavagna, Land Use Coordinator requested the Parks and Rec. Commission to review the proposed landscaping for the RMS Development. There was an error in the landscape plan and the 47 fir trees as shown are on the Town of Bethel property. The location has no impact on the future use of the property but will affect the size of the residential unit's back yards. The developer is requesting permission to put the trees on the town's property as a buffer. After reviewing the proposed landscaping it was agreed to allow the developer permission to plant the trees as planned as they will provide a good buffer for both parties involved.

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2015 JUN 26 P 2: 57

**TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK**

Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes, June 24, 2015

PROGRAMS: The mini session ended last week. Registrations for summer play ground camps are going well. The Youth camp for grades 7-9 is up to 35 students which shows an increase over last year. Junior and Senior camp registrations are going well also and the early a.m. drop off is up to 24 students. The Preschool camp still has openings for Session I & II but Session III is closed and has a wait list. Rachael also stated that she is really pleased with the quality of summer staff that has been hired. Our first Movie night is June 25th and the Lego Movie will be shown.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Due to the wet spring our full time staff has been doing a lot of mowing, part time staff starts July 1.
- New handicapped assessable bleachers have be installed at the High School Baseball field.
- Funding approved to purchase the new light poles, benches and garbage cans for the downtown. area. Estimated time for ordering and completing the project is August 1st.
- The director will order the new trailer and top dresser this week.
- Rubino property: Clearing of trees will start and the front area will be clear to make a parking area. The area for the practice soccer/lacrosse field will be prep, seeded and ready for fall 2016.
- The department will also compost and top soil the field at Berry school.

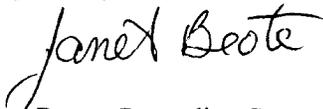
ROAD RACE: We have received a lot of positive feedback on having a 5k and 10k race this year. The race will be next week on Saturday, July 4th. As the new start and finish line is on School Street it will be closed to all traffic. We are expecting 400 racers this year!

DOG PARK: People are enjoying the new Bethel Bark Park located in Meckauer Park. We have not received any complaints. The dog waste containers are emptied every week. The next project is to install a shade structure for the dogs and later on to install a new back fence.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Angelo Franzese made a motion which was seconded by Gary Regan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The next Parks and Rec. Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Beote, Recording Secretary