

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Minutes

PRESENT: Meghan O'Connor, Patrick Morton, Gary Regan, Lou Valenti, Rachael McGrath, and Eileen Earle.

ABSENT: Laura Ferguson and Kevin Riley.

CALL TO ORDER: Meghan O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Lou Valenti made a motion to accept the minutes for **April 20, 2016** with an amendment that he was in attendance and Angelo Franzese was the member absent, seconded by Pat Morton, then approved by all members present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, PAYROLL AND INCOME: The Expenditures Report and the Cash Balance Report were reviewed by all present. The Cash Balance Report shows only a slight decrease over this same time last year but as anticipated our income is continuing to increase due to summer camp enrollment. The Expenditures Reports is in the red but end of the year adjustments still need to be made. On a motion by Pat Morton and seconded by Lou Valenti, the Expenditures Report and the Cash Balance Report were accepted and unanimously approved by all members present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank from Maria and Paul Shanley for our generous donation to their son's "Celebrate Mike's Life Event on April, 1, 2016. The raffles provided funds that support the Michael Shanley Scholarship which will award \$1,000 scholarship to a BHS Senior annually.
- Thank you from the Walnut Hill Community Church for allowing them for the use of the Mitchell Park parking lot on Easter.
- Correspondence from Christine Carver, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools to Meghan O'Connor, Chair requesting a joint meeting with the Parks and Rec. Commission to discuss the Turf Field & Feasibility Study. After some discussion the commission recommended that we should meet with this committee on Wed. June 22 at 7:00pm, before the Parks and Rec. Commission Meeting.
- Application for use of Municipal by Dam Jam an electric guitar group to hold their practices every Tuesday night in the Municipal Center. After some discussion it was decided not to approve the application as we have programs and meetings at night.

PROGRAMS: Registration for all summer camps is going well. The Skyhawks Mini-Hawk camp is full and the Flag Football program has 92 students enrolled! Orientation for the summer staff is this Saturday, June 4th.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- On June 9th and 10th a beautiful Ben's Bells mural made of tiles will be installed on the Snack Shed wall in honor of Liz Teed. The family, friends and community have been actively involved in the planning, creating and installation of this mural!
- The Hunt Field and the Middle School baseball field scheduling will be finalized this week.

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

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- The John DeMille 51st Firecracker 8K Road Race is on Monday, July 4th and will start on School Street this year. All race proceeds go to the Scotty Fund and Ben's Bells.
- The BBA Kindness Classis was this past weekend, with 24 teams playing ball.
- The 24th Annual Al Leonard Tournament is June 10th – 24th.
- The CT U9 District Tourney is July 2nd.
- The 11/70 Regional Tourney is July 29th.
- BSA has 3 Softball travel teams this year.
- The Bethel Women's Softball League has six teams playing this season.
- The sharing of the Teen Center with the B.O.E. is going well. The teen center has new computers.
- Eileen is meeting with Don Warfield of the Bethel Land Trust on Thursday, June 2nd to discuss The Franc Preserve Management Plan.

TURF FIELD: Eileen met with Milone and MacBroom to meet, discuss and walk the area for the turf field for Bethel High School Athletics and the Town of Bethel's youth sports program. They also considered areas in the complex for an additional turf field. Locations suggested are the lower Middle School softball field area and the Rockwell field.

RECREATION PROJECT – CAPITAL: Projects to be considered are the Bethel Municipal Center locker rooms, new parking lot for Bennett and Meckauer Park, irrigation at the Johnson School Field, new playground equipment for Parloa Park, a Net Play Scape at Meckauer Park, fitness equipment for the trail at Meckauer Park, disk golf for Overlook Park.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM: The After school program at Rockwell, Berry and Johnson School will be administered by Parks and Rec. The teachers and paraprofessionals currently working this program will continue, but will submit new applications for our files. There are 24-30 students enrolled at each location. Eileen will meet with the teachers before the next session. Gary Regan suggested that we go to observe an afternoon the program is running.

LOCKER ROOMS: Eileen met with the Permanent Building and Site Committee last week to discuss the Municipal Center Locker Rooms. Asbestos will need to be removed. Architects Guild will attend the next meeting on June 14th. Drawings should be ready soon.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda Pat Morton made a motion which was seconded by Gary Regan to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The next Parks and Rec. Commission meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Beote, Recording Secretary