



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

**BEACON FALLS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
November 20, 2023  
MINUTES (Subject to Revision)**

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:** P. Monti called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
**Members Present:** P. Monti, L. DeGeorge, R. Egan, V. Santos, M. Betti  
**Members Absent:** D. Ferretti, ME Fernandes  
**Public Present:** None  
Welcome to Morgan Betti who was appointed to the Commission by the BOS last week and sworn in today.
2. **Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings:** Motion to approve the October 2023 meeting minutes as presented. R. Egan made a motion to approve the minutes. V. Santos seconded the motion. All ayes. M. Betti abstained.
3. **Comments from the Public:** No comments at this time.
4. **Old Business**
  - a. Matthies Park – S. Moffat sent a text to the Chair with maintenance updates. The pavilion gutters and garage roof were cleaned. They have begun brush cutting on trails and routine Fall clean ups.
  - b. Pent Road – The soccer goals have been stored. The backstops at Pent Road have been maintained. The Sugar Shak has been winterized and fall clean ups are taking place. P. Monti has not heard back from the painter for the scoreboard. If he does not respond, P. Monti will reach out to other painters. BHC has authorized funds for the refurbishing of the scoreboard on Field #1. The Town will need insurance for any contractor hired to do the painting.
  - c. Toby's Pond, Riverbend, Veterans and Volunteer Park – Routine maintenance and fall clean ups.
  - d. Community Garden – V. Santos has taken over the Community Garden from Todd Waldren. The group discussed drawing up a document with the terms of holding a plot in the garden and posting some signage. The group will have until the Spring to promote the garden and reach out to existing plot holders to see if still want a plot for next year. V. Santos is reviewing the binder with the history of the garden. The Community Garden funds are part of the Special Activities fund.
  - e. Park Activities. –
    - i. **Holiday Lights contest:** The commission plans to set some simple criteria and judge lights on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The flyer contains a QR code for ease of signup. Sign-ups will close December 12<sup>th</sup> and the website will create a table of entries which can be sorted by Street. The commission can then publish the list (with permission).
    - ii. **Hayride:** V. Santos investigated the Ansonia horse drawn carriage event and it was put on by the Ansonia Nature. Ansonia used to have a hayride with a vehicle driven by an employee (not a volunteer) V. Santos noted that he is a fan of Haunted Hayrides, but he liked what we did and thought the event was very good as it was. P. Monti and R. Egan agreed, noting they would need two wagons.



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P. Monti added a Haunted Hayride is fun, but the Hayride event was great as it was. L. DeGeorge mentioned having 2 wagons if they could follow each other and turn around at the circle with ease.

- f. YMCA Update – No updates, other than providing face painters for the Hayride.
- g. FY2024 Budget: The Parks & Rec Activities line has been well utilized with the events held so far. Future event expenses can come from the Special Activities account. FY2025 budget call will be in January and due in February.
- h. Parks Signage – V. Santos and P. Monti asked again where the keys are for the signage at the parks. R. Egan noted that the First Selectman's Office and Public Works should have all the keys to the sign board. There is still no signboard at Pent Road, which should be durable and locking. S. Moffat needs to provide specifications so we can order a signboard.
- i. Veteran's and Volunteer Park signage – These signs have been replaced, per S. Moffat. L. DeGeorge also asked about the Granite bench that was toppled over. P. Monti noted that a monument company can reset it.

**5. New Business:**

- a. 2024 Meeting Calendar: **Motion to accept the 2024 Calendar of Meetings, as presented. LD/RE All Ayes.**
- b. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair: **RE nominated P. Monti as Chair for 2024. VS seconded the motion. After 3 calls there were no other nominations.**
- c. **PM nominated D. Ferretti as Vice Chair for the upcoming year. R. Egan seconded the motion. After 3 calls, there were no other nominations.**

**6. Correspondence:** The Naugatuck Valley Health District sent RACBL their Food Service application for 2024. P. Monti will contact the Baseball league president to get them this Food service application.

**7. Facility Applications:** For the December meeting, the commission should review and update the 2024 application. We will have a draft for review prior to the meeting. We will emphasize making checks payable to the TOWN OF BEACON FALLS and any other changes that D. Ferretti requested.

**8. Grant Information:**

- a. K. Matthies Grant – The swing set for Matthies has been delivered and is being stored at the Matthies Garage until ready for installation.
- b. The Town will be reapplying for the DECD Grant for a new Community Center at 35 Wolfe Avenue. There will be a Special BOS Meeting for Community input at the **Senior Center on 12/4/23 at 7:00 PM.** Available members of the commission should try and attend to impart and listen to community input.

**9. Other Business:**

- a. V. Santos reported that the BOS has approved a request from Rabbi Shmaya Hecht who asked if the Town Hall can put up a menorah. There will be an event to light the 9-foot menorah at Town Hall in early December. V. Santos will provide details and the Town will publicize.

**10. Adjournment: RE made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 PM. LD seconded the motion. All ayes.**

Sincerely,

Erin A. Schwarz