

Becket Parks and Recreation Committee

Minutes

August 4, 2022

Present: Rita Furlong, Eila Bell, David Weiler and Maddy Elovirta

Rita called the meeting at 9:00 AM in the Becket Room at the town hall. The minutes of April 26, 2021 meeting were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Starting 7-1-22 there was \$32,768 in our budget. Currently all 2022 bills have been met.

Old Business:

The Park Program will finish on August 11, 2022.

The library program has been successful this year with 20-25 youngsters participating.

Porta Potties will be removed from the North Becket Park and the Becket Center Park on October 1, 2022. The handicapped porta pottie at the Beach Shed will remain as usual.

New Business:

Fencing repairs at the Becket Center Park was approved with the understanding that we will share some of the cost with the Maintenance Dept. In all \$5,640 was approved with the hope that the amount would be lowered if Maintenance Dept. will share the cost. Maddy will speak with Maintenance Director Dave Shorey.

The question of surveying of the beach area was brought forward. The members agreed to have a letter presented to the selectmen regarding the survey process that the board had voted for some time ago. Maddy will make a draft letter, send it via email to members and with member approval, will forward a letter to the board and administrator.

Maddy raised the issue of many dead trees on the south side of the roadway going to the beach. The highway supt./tree warden will be asked about this issue.

The Becket Beat has requested the placement of a kiosk for the paper at the beach. Members voted no to this request. Discussion included the fact that it would be another source for trash on the beach as well as fuel to start a fire. The beach has been free of fire issues for some time.

Rita requested that some of the budget money be used to cut trees on the Parade Grounds. This issue was tabled. Members had concerns that the Parade Grounds does not fall under the Parks and Recreation. Some of the trees are very close to the road. Eversource has already marked at least one of the trees for their removal.

The tennis court in the village needs some attention. Rita will work at getting a price for the repairs and resurfacing for a possible article on the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

Any other business:

Rita raised the issue of who pays for the water testing at the beach for the summer and how it should be displayed. It was agreed that the Parks and Recreation Committee would be responsible for the cost of the testing, money will have to be added to the budget to cover this added cost. The numbers should be posted at the beach in some format. A display spot will be looked at.

Signage for the rules of the beach was discussed. Members will look at the existing signage and will determine what needs to be added or changed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.