

**BEECH MOUNTAIN PARKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
AUGUST 3, 2005**

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Reub Mooradian called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Other members present were Gil Adams, Jim Brooks, Gayle Cooper, Brad Mettee and Calder Smoot. Also present were Interim Town Manager Joe Perry, Mayor Rick Owen, Councilman Pete Chamberlin, Public Works Director Riley Hatch and Outdoor Recreation employee Sean McNay. There were a number of interested parties in the audience.

II. Consideration of Minutes – July 6, 2005

Mr. Adams moved to approve the minutes of July 6, 2005 as submitted. Mr. Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. Update on Recreation Center Activities

Mayor Owen gave a progress report on the Recreation Center noting that the contractors had 99% of the metal roofing on the building, the rock work had been completed and the windows installed. Mayor Owen reported that the Recreation Center Committee scheduled an open house for August 21st and September 4th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Mayor Owen also noted that Ms. Rosemary Burnette, Recreation Center Director, would start work on September 6th.

IV. Staff Report – Sean McNay

Mr. McNay reported that the department was planning for the Fall Season and noted that the W.A.M.Y. workers would be assisting until October. Mr. McNay indicated that he would be planning for the sledding hill and hoped to implement some new safety regulations. Mr. McNay listed the projects worked on in the past month: 1) Lower Pond Creek Trail sustained some damage to a bridge, repairs were being made. 2) All Town Parks had received regular maintenance. 3) A new bench had been placed at the overlook by Kat's on Beech Mountain Parkway. Chairman Mooradian asked about the name plates for the benches to which Mr. McNay reported that they had arrived and the department was in the process of replacing the old name plates. Mr. Dale Waterhouse, 131 Raven Road, asked what the plans were to make the sledding hill safer. Mr. McNay responded that the age limit of 12 and under would be enforced and the safety officers would be adults, this in addition to other improvements to the area should limit the number of accidents. Mr. McNay's report was accepted as submitted.

Mr. Calder Smoot asked that the ad hoc Sledding Hill Committee schedule a meeting and after a brief discussion the meeting was scheduled for September 15th at 10:00 in the Town Hall Council Chambers to help the Outdoor Recreation Department deal with the sledding hill issues. Mr. Smoot noted that he would contact the other Committee members - Jim Brooks, Charlie Burlison and Pete Chamberlin. Mr. Smoot also indicated that the Interim Town

Manager, Mr. Hatch and Mr. McNay would be notified of the meeting. Mr. Hatch noted one of the concerns for the sledding would be the grooming, Mr. Joe Coakley had loaned the Town a piece of equipment to groom the hill last winter and no plans had been discussed for the upcoming season.

V. Other Business

a. Mr. Brooks noted that a new home had been built on North Pinnacle Ridge Road, next to Sunset Park. Mr. Brooks felt the Town should look at the property line between the park and the new home to assure there would not be any problems in the future. Mr. Hatch was asked to look at the situation. Mr. Brooks asked if the DOT beautification plans for the Parkway had been completed to which Mayor Owen indicated that he had been in contact with the DOT and the plans were not yet complete.

b. Mr. Smoot asked for an update on the Memorial Park area to which Mayor Owen reported that the Town had not been able to acquire the last lot, but were still working on it. Mayor Owen also noted that Mr. Paul Piquet would be replacing Mrs. Kakii Handley on the Memorial Park Committee.

V. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Adams seconded by Mr. Brooks, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Reba Greene
Town Clerk