

Madison Beach and Recreation Department  
Bauer Park Committee  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Subject to Approval

**March 22, 2023**

Bauer Classroom

**In attendance:** Ted Rahmann, Holly Johnson, Chuck Imbergamo, , Ruthanna Terreri,

**Beach & Rec.:** Austin Hall

**Guests:** Heather Crawford (Madison Conservation Commission)

**Absent:** Ann Judd, Jim Henneberry, Kristin Wildermann

Meeting called to order by Ted Rahmann at 7:15 pm

1. Approval of meeting minutes –Holly moved that the minutes of the February 22<sup>th</sup> meeting be approved. Chuck seconded. All in favor.
2. Public Comments
  - a) Heather Crawford from the Madison Conservation Commission attended the meeting to discuss her proposal to use the park for a program to educate the public about light pollution. They hope to have someone from the Dark-Skies Association in attendance. The date is April 22<sup>nd</sup>, which is Earth Day. They want to keep it simple and either start later and use the star gazing platform or start earlier and include another presenter. Ted noted that Elinor Griffith wants to hold an open hives demo to educate the public about the bees, but it was noted that May 20<sup>th</sup> is World Bee Day. Another suggestion was story telling by Sarah Stanley. Austin said that a town permit is not required for the Conservation Commission event, only approval by the Bauer Park Committee.
  - b) Ted will email Elinor Griffith about the bees and Heather Crawford will try and get the New Haven Astronomical Society, but they have not responded to date. An idea to bring your own scope or binoculars was mentioned. Dark-Skies Association information will be available for distribution at the event. Other possible presenters/info. are for the Conservation Commission themselves. They would like to promote their event which they are having at the library on April 25<sup>th</sup> called "no mow May" (to help pollinators).
  - c) Ted moved to approve the Conservation Commission plan for their April 22<sup>nd</sup> use of the Park. Holly seconded the motion, and all were in favor.
3. Chair's Report - *nothing to report*
4. Section Reports
  - a) Volunteers Coordinator – *nothing to report*
  - b) Buildings and Grounds
    - i) Austin said that the gates to the Community Garden will be opened at the start of April.
  - c) Public Relations and Publicity Report
    - i) A card is being purchased for John for his service to the Committee. Ideas for a gift were discussed.

- d) Community Gardens
    - i) Austin said that half of the garden plots are reserved. Carrie is to send reminder emails to those who have not renewed. 1 or 2 families who did not perform their service last year have made their payments.
    - ii) Rototilling of the gardens will take place within 1-2 weeks, dependent on weather. The greenhouse will be opened next week. There are limited spots left in the greenhouse.
    - iii) Dave Larocca will be collecting soil samples for testing for those interested in this service.
  - e) Education Report
    - i) Austin said that a grant application was submitted to the Bauer Trust. The application was very different than the one used in previous years. He is trying to find money for instructors for some of the programs at Bauer.
  - f) Garden Club / Farming Project – nothing to report
5. Harvest Festival
- a) Ideas for the 2023 festival were discussed: 'Wind over Wings', 'Guns to Plowshares', kite flying, 'A Place Called Hope', wolves presentation, and a bird walk
  - b) The next Harvest Festival sub-committee meeting will be April 20th at 7:00 PM.
6. Old Business
- a) Bauer Farmhouse: Austin to talk with Ted regarding this potential project.
7. New Business - *none*

#### Adjournment

Motion made by Holly to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Ruthanna. All in favor.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Imbergamo, guest minute taker