

Bantam Civic Association Monthly Meeting September 7 2022

5:05pm Paul Griffen calls the meeting of BCA to order

Present Members: Paul Griffen Pres, Dick Sheldon VP, Jeanie Sanford
Jane Golding, JJ Annable Kim Griffen, Kyle Towne, Suzanne Fox ,
Terry Szymanski, Valmore Caron
Wendy Westcott

New members: Lauren Sage, Katie Lapointe, Jeff Porter

Previous minutes: Minutes from previous meeting, presented, reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Valmore, approved by all.

New Members Paul requests that new member volunteering explain why they would like join the BCA. Lauren Sage has lobbied for improvements, post office painting, etc. She has been long time dedicated advocate for Bantam. Jeff Porter of Morris is acting President of Litchfield Hills Lacrosse Club. Rebirth of the Alain White Fields important to them.

Paul researched how long LH Lacrosse has been more or less taking care of the field- it has been since 2005. They have vested interest and Paul officially thanks them for their continued use as it was the main reason the fields have been maintained.

Katie Lapointe joins as long time employee of Bantam Post office and local “fan”! Unanimous agreement that Lauren, Jeff and Katie are officially members of BCA.

Alain White field: Roof replacement of the pavilion completed and a round of applause for JJ and his crew. Paul would like to place boulders near front gate to restrict access around gate and gravel in multiple locations. Dick suggests process because it will pack down.

Playground: Kim in contact with company which the original playground equipment was purchased from and installed by. Upgrades broadly range \$3600-\$30k. She will appeal to Scherr-Thoss for a \$5k donation. Request must be made by end of month for their November meeting. Need to provide quotes for consideration and they get back to us. She is looking into ways to improve/renew/wrap current equipment. Quote forthcoming on renewing.

Website for BCA Paul asks Wendy- update is: Harmony will set up the BCA page on the BantamCT.org site for \$75. And upload minutes and agendas at no cost- given there is very little.

Bylaw review will be postponed for now. Looks like they've been updated fairly recently.

Planning future events/calendar misc for Alain White Field:

Lion's club 10/22 Auto show

Katie Lapointe's Non Profit Litchfield County Craft Fair/Creating Hope. 10/2 Sunday 11-4pm. 40 vendors average. Complaint was parking. Katie would like to work that out with Paul. They will walk field, make plan. She has insurance. Paul asks if there will be people directing traffic. Katie has volunteers. Driveway ingress and egress will be marked; BCA will open a second entrance. Exit will be at the playground end. Kyle will move boulders to delineate. Katie says vendors like to park their cars by their booth. Paul will map it out and says driving on the grass will depend on the weather and if ground is dry. Katie says it has usually been horseshoe shaped set up. Jeff says Lacrosse goals will be out before the event.

Portolets can be rented in advance. Jeff: Lacrosse uses Chatfields pay for use April 1-June 30. BCA takes over from that date.

Farmer's Market: Dick Sheldon still interested in getting this going. Vibrant Farms says Friday eves may be good timing. Must go to Litchfield P&Z for permits. Time may be May- Oct. Will find out what months enough supply.

Signage for rules for park: Wendy got quote from Kelly at Writeway Signs. Design time \$145. Per hour 20x30

Sign quote: Dibond w digital printing and hardware \$115. 24x36 same \$158. Paul suggest painting rocks with rules. Jane says her husband does signage, did the signage for Bantam Historic, can do for fields.

Katie's' Diggety Dogs 4H looking for volunteer projects.

Lauren Sage says group looking for dog park location. Paul not for dog park, logistics, etc too much,

Treasurer: Jeannie says \$26k in account. Field electricity runs \$60. per month. Paul says we may have \$5k to play with after the roof is paid.

Dick says the ARP money is still in play. Encourage idea of A2 Survey maybe BCA pays for this.

Alain White Field Fee: Jeff says fee has varied thru the years. LHLacrosse pays \$1000. Per season. Question comes up restructuring fee. Jeff will bring it to association to discuss. Paul will go over past fees with Treasurer Jeannie to compare with Litchfield for next meeting.

Different fee structure for Nonprofits. Katie's event is non-profit. Lion's club fee? Paul will talk to Boomer to find out how this has been structured.

Lease: Paul passed around a letter he sent to Bantam Fire Department to terminate the 1988 lease for field. BCA couldn't afford insurance so leased it to BFD for carnival etc. No one interested in changing situation. EMPHASIZE not rush to terminate lease. Dick Sheldon says Litchfield First Selectman Denise Rapp is ok with keeping the insurance situation status quo as it is a small line item for town, keep as is. Very low fee. New policy would be far higher.

Valmore suggests Fall "work party" meeting.

6:01 motion to adjourn by Valmore, 2nd by JJ

Respectfully submitted October 3, 2022

Wendy Westcott