

Present: Chairperson Schmitt; Vice-Chairperson Greening; Members: Davis, Harmon, Mooney and O'Reilly

Absent: Cobleigh

Also Present: Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Council Liaison, Stearn
Council Member, Downey

Chairperson Schmitt presided and called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD WITH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 18, 2001

On page 3, third paragraph under “Revised Pavilion Rates”, add the following to the first sentence: “since the fee does not cover all the expense.”

MOTION by Harmon, supported by Davis, that the minutes of a joint Parks and Recreation Board and Council meeting held on January 18, 2001 be approved as amended.

Motion passes unanimously.

ENGINEERING UPDATE

Pasieka updated the board on the status of the Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Recreation Bond Development Grant. Funds must be appropriated by the Legislature and a Project Agreement executed between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Beverly Hills prior to beginning the project. With limited exceptions, communities may not incur any costs associated with the project until that time if the community expects DNR reimbursement.

Information received by the state outlines what the communities approved for a grant can do now in order to begin their projects as soon as a Project Agreement is executed. Pasieka stated that the Village may request approval from the Grants Administration Division (GAD) to incur those costs associated with the preparation of plans, specifications and bid documents for the projects. If a community would like to incur these costs before its Project Agreement is executed, it must submit a written request to its assigned grant coordinator. The Village cannot incur costs until it has written approval from the GAD. Pasieka is in the process of preparing this letter.

CONSTRUCTION SIGN UPDATE

Pasieka reported that he spoke with David Jensen about an offer made last summer to build a construction sign for display at the entrance of Beverly Park. Jensen informed Pasieka that he is discussing this with a sign contractor and will advise the Village of his decision soon.

WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY REPORT

O'Reilly reported that the Winter Family Fun Day held on Sunday, January 21 from 1-4 p.m. was a great success with all the events well attended. Costs came in under budget. O'Reilly thanked everyone who volunteered their time to make it a great day.

Board members thanked O'Reilly for a great job of organizing the event.

MEETING WITH CANDIDATES

Mooney announced that she received a call from Council candidate Dave Domzal, who could not be present due to a death in his family.

Council candidates were invited to tonight's meeting to introduce themselves to the Parks and Recreation Board. Candidates in attendance were Doyle Downey, Todd Stearn, and Art Liberty. They were asked to comment on the park millage proposal and on Beverly Park in general in addition to any other remarks they wished to make. Questions and comments were exchanged by the candidates and board members.

Members of the audience who posed questions and comments were John Mooney of 19111 Devonshire and Tami Wilms of 18250 Kirkshire.

O'Reilly thanked the candidates for coming out to share their views with the Parks and Recreation Board and provide board and audience members with an opportunity to ask them questions. He wished all candidates luck on March 12.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Stearn congratulated O'Reilly on the successful Winter Family Fun Day. Stearn remarked that tonight is his last Parks and Recreation Board meeting before the Council election. He has enjoyed being a part of this group.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Pasieka announced that the League of Women Voters will sponsor a "Meet the Candidates" night on Monday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the Beverly Hills municipal building. The event will be videotaped and replayed between that night and the election on cable Channels 15 and 18.

Pasieka distributed a current parks and recreation revenue and expense report. He proposes to recommend a cost of living increase in the maintenance portion of the parks and recreation budget request to Council.

Pasieka referred to a letter drafted by Interim Manager Spallasso to Mr. and Mrs. Lehman of 20348 Ronsdale in response to their letter to Council on the subject of dogs running without a leash in the Douglas-Evans nature preserve. The Lehmans suggest that Douglas-Evans be posted for no pets to preserve the assets in the wildlife area.

Village administration will post a sign in the Douglas-Evans nature area that duplicates the signage posted in Beverly Park. The sign states, "Keep Dogs on Leash".

Pasieka stated that the Village Ordinance permits dogs in the parks as long as they are under the control of their owners. To prohibit animals in Village parks would require an amendment to the Ordinance.

The board has received a letter from Debbie Morrow, President of the Beverly Hills Garden Club, requesting use of the Beverly Park pavilion on Saturday, May 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the organization's annual plant sale. There may be some coordinating required if the park clean up needs to use the 19th as a rain date.

MOTION by O'Reilly, supported by Greening, to recommend that the Beverly Hills Garden Club be allowed to use Beverly Park on Saturday, May 19, 2001 and that the fees to reserve the pavilion be waived.

Motion passes unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS

Davis commented that she will vote in favor of the park millage in the March election.

Members of the board thanked O'Reilly for organizing the Winter Family Fun Day. Harmon stated that a crowd of that size in the park in the middle of the winter demonstrates the people's support of the park. The winter gathering is one of many events that fill the park every couple of months.

Schmitt thanked Messrs. Liberty, Stearn, and Downey for attending tonight's meeting. On behalf of the entire board, Schmitt thanked Stearn for serving as Council liaison for the last two years and for supporting the Parks and Recreation board. Schmitt commented that he hopes that the people support the park millage.

Mooney expressed condolences to the Domzal family on the loss of his brother in law.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**Phil Schmitt, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Board**

**Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk**