

Present: Parks & Recreation Board: Chairperson Greening; Vice-Chairperson Wilms;
Members: Davis, Harmon, Nagle, Nelson and O'Reilly
Council: President Downey; President Pro-Tem Domzal; Members: Mooney,
Pfeifer, Schmitt and Woodrow

Absent: Council – Stearn

Also Present: Village Manager, Murphy
Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Public Services Director, Spallasso

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

APPROVE MINUTES OF A REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2002

Motion by O'Reilly, seconded by Davis, that the minutes of a regular Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on August 15, 2002 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

AWARD CONTRACT FOR CORYELL ESTATES AND HUMMEL COURT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS

This agenda item was deferred to the October 7, 2002 Council meeting.

RESOLUTION FOR RESUBMISSION OF PARK POND GRANT

Pasieka stated that administration will resubmit the Village's application for a Park Pond Grant to include modifications suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The revisions will strengthen the application and improve consideration given to it by the grant review committee. Two areas to be adjusted in the revised grant are as follows:

1. Increase Village matching funds from \$56,661 (51%) to \$62,220 (56%) in order to boost the points scored for this item. This change will require a Council resolution to be submitted to the DNR by 9/30/02.
2. Hubbell, Roth & Clark was asked to rephrase and clarify wording that describes enhancements to the water quality as a result of the pond aeration improvements.

Questions from Council and Board members relative to the Park Pond project were addressed by administration.

Motion by Harmon, seconded by O'Reilly, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommends that Village administration resubmit a modified application to the Michigan

Department of Natural Resources for a Park Pond Grant and recommend that the Village Council adopt a Resolution to revise the grant application to increase the Village's matching dollar amount.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mooney, seconded by Woodrow, to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the Village Council has revised the amount set aside from \$56,661 to \$62,220 in the Park Capital Improvements Account for Beverly Park Pond improvements, and

WHEREAS the Beverly Hills Council has adopted a Beverly Hills Park Master Plan, which was approved and is now on file with the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and

WHEREAS the Village of Beverly Hills continues to fully support efforts to realize improvements to Beverly Park as described in the 1998 Community Park Master Plan, and

WHEREAS the Village of Beverly Hills seeks a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund and/or Land and Water Conservation Fund grant that would provide up to 44 percent of the cost for these park pond improvements, and

WHEREAS the Village has identified specific improvements to the pond area that are identified in the grant application and is committed to using the funds as specified;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Beverly Hills Council hereby supports the revisions to the application submitted for a grant pursuant to the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and/or Land and Water Conservation Fund programs as well as any efforts necessary to comply with said application and commits the aforementioned \$62,220 as local matching funds to be used exclusively towards the improvements as specified in the grant application.

Roll Call Vote:

Resolution passed (6 – 0).

CURRENT PARK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Spallasso reported that the contractor is completing punch list items. There are a couple of trees that will be replanted. Spallasso will check all plant material in the spring. He assured the Board that final payment will not be made to the contractor until the job is accepted as complete. Spallasso also stated that the one-year guarantee for plantings would start after the final payment is made. There was mention made of considering an irrigation system to maintain new plantings.

The iron archways are expected to be completed next week and will be inspected and approved by consulting engineers from HRC. Members of the Parks and Recreation Board are invited to join the consultants in this inspection. A date has not been established for the installation of the archways.

Spallasso noted that Detroit Edison will remove the pole and street light at the west vehicle entrance at Norchester and relocate it from the south side to the north side of Beverly Road.

Council and Board members expressed dissatisfaction with crumbling asphalt curbing in areas of the parking lot where cars bump into the curb. Repairs would look like patches. Consideration was given to replacing the asphalt curbing with concrete curbs and gutters when funds are available.

Greening commented on the time and effort that landscape architect Steve Pyc from HRC has put into overseeing the park improvement project. A letter of appreciation will be written to Steve Pyc for his community service and will be signed by the Parks and Recreation Board and Council.

In answer to an inquiry, Murphy stated that the Village has insurance coverage for damage to the play structure.

There was discussion relative to the fees charged by the consulting engineering firm for sled hill construction drawings that were prepared for other municipalities and modified for Beverly Hills. Harmon questioned high cost estimates from HRC for a pump to be installed in the park pond. He remarked that HRC should be aware that the Village is scrutinizing construction drawings and cost estimates provided by their firm.

Administration commented that fees charged by HRC are comparable to those of other consulting engineering firms. Murphy indicated that the Village could solicit bids from other firms at the request of the Board and Council. Pfeifer mentioned that HRC is charging the Village for its direct cost with respect to the park improvement project and not for overhead costs.

In response to an inquiry, Murphy stated that the Village has contracted with HRC to prepare construction drawings and stake out the sled hill but has not contracted for construction oversight of that project. Also, the Village does not have a contract with HRC on the pond project other than to assist with an application for a park pond grant. Murphy related that the Village uses in-house staff when possible to minimize the cost of the park improvement project.

SLED HILL DISCUSSION

Members of the Parks and Recreation Board and Council met with HRC to go over a number of ideas for improvements to the sled hill. A modified plan was prepared for review this evening based on a convergence of ideas. Murphy highlighted material distributed including detailed drawings of the stair and hand rail system and a sheet showing an aerial view of the stair system and landscaping on the hill. Murphy noted that a set of plans were sent to the Village's liability insurance carrier for review and comment.

There was discussion of the design and material used for improvements to the sled hill. Several suggestions from Board members will be incorporated into the plan. Screws should be used instead of nails in the construction. The opening at the top of the hill should be large enough for people to walk through with a toboggan. Alternative wood material without harmful chemicals should be investigated for use in construction. Crushed limestone was suggested for the steps. Board members asked for alternative suggestions for ground cover in the area where there is native grass.

Murphy has discussed the bid process with Village Attorney Ryan. The Village can solicit firms to submit a closed bid. A notice requesting bid proposals for the sled hill work will be posted on the Village's bulletin board and published in the Eccentric newspaper. There can be a short turn-around time for accepting bids.

Administration is looking for a consensus from the Parks and Recreation Board and Council to go forward with this design. HRC will be asked to develop construction drawings and prepare cost estimates for Council approval.

Motion by Davis, seconded by Nelson, that the Parks and Recreation Board approves the design for the sled hill improvements as presented at this meeting and recommends that Council proceed with the project.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Pfeifer, seconded by Schmitt, that Council approve the sled hill design as presented including suggestions proposed this evening and authorize Hubbell, Roth & Clark to prepare construction drawings and cost estimates necessary to proceed with the bid process.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

DISCUSSION OF 2003 PARK PAVILLION RENTAL FEES

Parks and Recreation Board and Council members discussed raising park pavilion rental fees for 2003, particularly for use by non-residents. Domzal recalled that there was agreement last year to review the pavilion rental fees once the park improvements were completed. Fees should reflect the higher costs of maintaining upgraded park facilities.

It was noted that the trial period in which the pavilion restrooms were left open during the day went well and received positive comments from residents. The cost to the Village to open and close the restrooms each day during the summer months will be approximately \$50 a week.

There was agreement that the rates for pavilion rental should be increased in 2003 to reflect the cost of providing services. Administration will prepare a revised fee schedule and present it to the Parks and Recreation Board for consideration at its October meeting. The Board will forward a recommendation on pavilion fees to Council for adoption and possible inclusion in the calendar.

HALLOWEEN HOOT UPDATE

Greening reported that preparations are underway for the Halloween Hoot to be held in Beverly Park on Sunday, October 27. This was a topic of discussion at the September 17 Council meeting. Greening invited everyone to be a part of this event.

2003 CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Nagle volunteered to organize the concerts in the park for the 2003 summer season. The Board had decided to schedule the concerts on a week day rather than on Sundays in an effort to increase

attendance. Nagle proposed holding the concerts on three Wednesdays in July on the 16th, 23rd and 30th.

Nagle has booked the entertainment for two of the three concerts. The Sun Messengers will perform on July 16 and the John D. Lamb Band is scheduled for July 23rd. The July 30th date is not filled at this time. Nagle also suggested the possibility of scheduling a teenage band night on the Wednesday before school starts in August. These bands could be booked in the spring. She commented on the need to advertise the concerts.

Council and Parks and Recreation Board members discussed whether to continue the summer concerts in Beverly Park considering the poor attendance experienced this year other than the first concert held in conjunction with a park reopening celebration. It was mentioned that Council agreed last year during budget deliberations not to allocate money for the concerts unless the turnout improved.

After considerable discussion, there was a consensus to proceed with scheduling concerts on Wednesdays in 2003. If the concerts are not well attended, the Parks and Recreation Board will not recommend continuing the concerts another year.

BRICK SALES

Davis reported on the sale of engraved paving bricks since the last meeting. Orders have been received as a result of forms included in the Villager newsletter. Davis will submit an order for 67 bricks this week.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Woodrow thanked the Parks and Recreation Board for doing a great job.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Pasieka referred to a memo from Lillian Dean outlining improvements discussed with area residents for Riverside Park in terms of aesthetics and stabilizing the shore line. A plan is being developed, and it is anticipated that the West Beverly Homeowners Association will help to fund enhancements to this 3.4 acre public area.

Pasieka noted that efforts to reduce erosion at the west side of the park is an undertaking beyond the scope of this project. Spallasso is looking into the erosion problem.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council members thanked the Parks and Recreation Board on their work during the last year. Domzal suggested that future joint meetings focus more on policy issues.

Mooney questioned the status of the Baseball Tomorrow grant. Murphy answered that the Village sent a letter of interest and received a correspondence from the Baseball Tomorrow group indicating that they will inform Beverly Hills when they are ready to proceed with our application for grant funds.

BOARD COMMENTS

Davis thanked administration and Council for the time they spend serving the Village.

Wilms commented that it is nice to see the playground area full every day that she drives by the park.

Harmon expressed the view that pathways are important to this community. He thinks that there should be a safe way for residents to ride a bike to Beverly Park. Domzal asked Parks and Recreation Board members to attend the October 7 Council meeting and participate in a discussion on the implementation of the Pathways Plan.

Harmon supports Buckthorn thinning in Beverly Park. In response to an inquiry, Pasieka remarked that the Village is considering the procedures and precautions necessary to begin its program of Buckthorn thinning in the park.

Greening has received phone calls from residents who would like the Village to continue to provide compost free of charge. Spallasso stated that the Village is looking for a suitable area in the DPW complex to store and distribute the large load of compost delivered by SOCRRA. It will not happen this year.

Motion by O'Reilly, seconded by Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Patricia Greening, Chairperson
Parks & Recreation Board**

**Doyle Downey
Council President**

**Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk**

**Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary**