

Present: Chairperson Greening; Vice-Chairperson Wilms; Members: Davis, Harmon, Nagle, Nelson and O'Reilly.

Absent: None

Also Present: Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Council members, Mooney and Schmitt

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

APPROVE MINUTES OF JOINT PARKS & RECREATION BOARD AND COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2002

The minutes were changed to add the following after the third sentence of the second paragraph from the bottom of page 2: "Spallasso also stated that the one-year guarantee for plantings would start after the final payment is made."

Motion by Davis, seconded by Nelson, that the minutes of a joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board and Council held on September 19, 2002 be approved as amended.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phil Schmitt of 18103 Riverside asked if compost will be available to residents next year. Pasieka responded that administration is seeking a desirable location for compost storage and distribution, which will probably be in the municipal building parking lot area. Schmitt questioned whether administration will have a plan for compost distribution in the Village by the first Board meeting in January.

UPDATE ON CURRENT PARK CONSTRUCTION

Pasieka reported that erection of the iron arches at the park entranceway is scheduled to begin next Tuesday. Signage has been placed on the columns at the entrance. The Village will seek the final 10% withheld from CMI grant funds when this work is completed and documented.

The light pole will be moved from the northwest side of the vehicle entrance to the north side of Beverly Road. Spallasso is discussing the plan and cost for electrical work with the contractor and Detroit Edison. Board members had questions and concerns about the power to the pavilion.

Greening stated that the contractor should be informed that the parking lot islands need additional dirt, and the plantings in the islands should be raised.

Pasieka distributed a letter dated October 11, 2002 from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, the Village's liability insurance carrier. The MMRMA has indicated that plans submitted by the Village for improvements to the sled hill and handrail system are

satisfactory. Several comments and suggestions are provided in the correspondence. Consulting engineering firm Hubbell, Roth & Clark will proceed with advertising for bids on the project. Pasieka cannot provide assurance that the work will be completed this fall.

UPDATE ON CURRENT GRANTS

Pasieka stated that there is no new information on the Village's grant application for park pond improvements. Paperwork has been resubmitted on the application to include modifications suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

A letter dated October 3, 2002 was received from the Executive Director of The Baseball Tomorrow Fund notifying Beverly Hills that its project does not meet the evaluation criteria established by its Board of Directors. The notification indicates that its Board prefers to provide funding for construction or renovation of fields used only for youth baseball and/or softball. Men's softball use of the fields was included in the usage data submitted with the Village's letter of interest.

Board and Council members present were disappointed with the outcome of this grant request for improvements to the Beverly Park ball diamonds. Pasieka will continue to look for grant possibilities.

DISCUSS ADJUSTING 2003 PAVILION RENTAL RATES

Pasieka provided Board members with a memo reviewing park pavilion rental rates along with supporting data including a survey of area communities with information on facilities and charges. Also distributed to the Board was the current schedule of the Beverly Park pavilion rental rates.

Upon review of rental fees charged by area communities and how they administer their pavilion rental process, Pasieka does not recommend raising fees at this time. Beverly Hills park pavilion rental fees are currently the highest among surrounding communities. He noted that fees are generally in place to offset the costs associated with public service. The excess, which is used to fund park improvements, is minimal and mostly a result of the large group rentals.

The Board discussed the administration and charges for pavilion rental imposed by area communities. Pasieka indicated that many communities have full-time staff that oversees the park and trash pick up at the pavilion. Board members expressed an interest in modifying the rental policy to allow residents to reserve the pavilion beginning on the first Wednesday in March and opening the pavilion rental to non-residents on the first Wednesday in May in lieu of April.

Pasieka's memo indicates that Beverly Hills has the most complex and difficult to administer pavilion rental structure of neighboring communities. Board members discussed how the process could be simplified by charging a flat rate and not requiring a deposit that must be returned. Consideration was also given to limiting the event size to no more than 100 people for pavilion rentals on the basis that the pavilion cannot easily accommodate larger groups. Some of these changes involve a recommendation to Council and its approval of a revised rate

schedule. It was the sense of the Board to continue a review of the park pavilion rental policies and rates next year. No change is proposed to the fee schedule for the 2002/03 season.

Motion by O'Reilly, seconded by Wilms, to change the current administrative policy to accept reservations for park pavilion rental from residents on the first Wednesday in March and accept pavilion reservations from non-residents beginning on the first Wednesday in May.

Motion passed unanimously.

These dates will be noted in the Village informational calendar.

2003 CONCERT UPDATE

Nagle has booked entertainment for two of the Wednesday summer concerts. Contracts should be sent from these groups. She is looking for suggestions for the July 30 date. A Teenage Band Night will be scheduled for the Wednesday night before school starts in the fall. The bands will be contacted for that event in the spring.

A suggestion was made at the joint meeting with Council to feature resident musicians at a summer concert. Nagle suggested inviting local musicians to perform before or after the highlighted band at one of the scheduled concerts, other than teenage band night. The bands play from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., and the park is open until 10 p.m.

BRICK SALES

Davis reported that the second brick order has been placed. The sale of personalized paving bricks for placement in the entrance walkway will continue. Order forms will be available at the Halloween Hoot and in the Villager newsletter.

DISCUSS PATHWAY PUBLIC HEARING HELD OCTOBER 7, 2002

Wilms reported that she spoke on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Board in favor of sidewalks at the public hearing held at the October 7, 2002 Council meeting. Council took action to add the Evergreen Road segment from 13 Mile to 14 Mile Road to the Pathways Plan. Council directed Village legal counsel to prepare ballot language for a dedicated millage for the construction of new pathways to be submitted to the voters in the March 2003 election.

Mooney commented that the ballot language for the millage proposal will be considered for approval at the Monday, October 21 Council meeting.

DISCUSS CANCELLATION OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MEETINGS

Whether bids on the sled hill improvements will be available for review by the November Parks and Recreation Board meeting is questionable. Discussion of the Winter Family Fun Day scheduled for January 19, 2003 could be a topic of discussion in November. Consideration will be given to canceling the November meeting if there is no business pending. The Board was in agreement to cancel the December meeting.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Woodrow was not present. Mooney commended the Board on its deliberation of park pavilion rates and policies. She urged any members who are available on Monday night to attend the Council meeting at which time there will be discussion of a pathway millage proposal and pathway maintenance policies.

BOARD COMMENTS

Nagle questioned Board member participation in the Halloween Hoot on Sunday, October 27. Board members were asked to attend the topping and gutting between 10:00 and 12:00 if they are available to help and encouraged not to miss the evening festivities.

Wilms related a concern from moms that there should be an alternative path for small children that avoids the really scary displays along the park path. Greening responded that there is an alternate route that can be taken at the point where a sign says “Haunted Forest”. She will have teenage volunteers posted at that area to warn people with small children that the haunted forest may be frightening to little ones.

Harmon thanked the Village’s public works department for its timely clean up of Riverside Park after recent heavy rains.

Greening suggested that an article on the Winter Family Fun Day should be included in the upcoming Villager Newsletter. A piece about giving personalized paving bricks as holiday gifts may be beneficial.

Everyone was urged to vote in the November 5 Election.

Motion by O’Reilly, seconded by Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk**

**Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary**