

Present: Vice-Chairperson Nagle; Members: Harmon, O'Reilly and Wilms

Absent: Davis, Greening, and Nelson

Also Present: Assistant to the Manager, Pasioka  
Council Liaison, Schmitt

Vice-Chairperson Nagle called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by Harmon, seconded by O'Reilly, that the minutes of a regular Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on Thursday, January 15, 2004 be approved as submitted.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Todd Wilms of 32085 Waltham commented that he likes the idea of replacing the pavilion roof with a metal roof as part of the park pavilion renovation project. He appreciates the improvements made to the sled hill this year and mentioned the great job done by Eagle Scouts and volunteers on the new sled hill steps. Wilms commended the Board for doing a great job in the park.

### **PAVILION PLAN**

The Board is in receipt of a memo from Village Manager Murphy regarding pavilion improvements. Members have also received copies of proposals from four architectural/engineering firms for architectural services to provide design and construction documents for renovations to the Beverly Park pavilion. The proposals were from Westerlund Architects, Stucky-Vitale Architects, Hubbell, Roth & Clark, and Petrilli Consulting Architects.

Brian Murphy could not be present to discuss these proposals with the Board. His memo indicates that a staff review finds the proposal from Westerlund Architects responsive and responsible. The outlined scope of services is consistent with the needs of the Village and accomplishes the preferred goals and objectives of the Parks and Recreation Board. It was noted that the proposals will go before Council for review and consideration following the Board's review. It is likely that Council will consider the matter at its March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

The Board discussed the architectural submissions and agreed with the findings of the staff report pending a review of the contractor's background and project experience. The Board requested a list of projects that Westerlund has completed.

Motion by O'Reilly, seconded by Wilms, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommends entering into a contract with Westerlund Architects, LLC for architectural services relating to the proposed improvements to the Beverly Park pavilion not to exceed \$7,750, pending administration's review of the professional qualifications of Westerlund Architects.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **PARK TREE PLANTING**

Harmon reported that he met with Council members Phil Schmitt, Janet Mooney, Dave Domzal and the Village Manager to discuss the need for a tree maintenance and planting program in the Village. The group talked about recommending a type, size, and location of trees with the idea of extending a purchasing program to residents. Residents would be able to purchase trees from the Village for Beverly Park, the right-of-way in front of their home, and for private property. Harmon commented that this is an opportunity to achieve a controlled diversity of trees in the community by recommending species that will do well in this area.

The tree subcommittee recommended that the Parks and Recreation Board act as coordinator of a program to encourage residents to plant trees in the Village. Council took action at its February 17 meeting to request the Parks and Recreation Board to develop a program to encourage the planting of trees within the Village.

Harmon volunteered to contact several individuals from various community groups to obtain information for use in a tree planting program. He will contact Howard Knorr from the Friends of the Rouge group, Village Garden Clubs, and Lillian Dean who coordinates the SOCWA Healthy Lawn and Garden Program.

Schmitt distributed copies of a newspaper article regarding the efforts of the Healthy Lawn and Gardens division of SOCWA to educate cities in southeast Michigan on what species to consider when replanting trees. The piece states that the SOCWA will host a workshop on April 26 that will educate people on native trees and shrubs that may be useful replacements for dying ash trees.

The Board discussed how it will publicize and promote a tree planting program. Harmon will prepare an information piece to be sent to every resident possibly via the newsletter. It was suggested that park donations be used to kick off the program by planting a number of trees in Beverly Park as part of the Memorial Day festivities. This will be a good way to let people know about the program with the idea that the actual tree sale and pick up will occur in the Fall. Harmon mentioned that trees have a much better chance of survival if they are planted in the Fall.

Motion by Harmon, seconded by Wilms, that the Parks and Recreation Board accepts the assignment from Council to develop a program to encourage the planting of trees within the Village and will report back within 90 days to Council on its progress.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **FOLLOW UP REPORT ON WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY**

The Board talked about the huge success of the January 18 Winter Family Fun Day. There was abundant snow and the event was very well attended. Members thanked Dan Nelson for doing a fabulous job of organizing this year's Winter Family Fun Day.

O'Reilly related that he and Dan Nelson visited winter carnival events in the cities of Pontiac, Auburn Hills, and Milford. He reported on the nature of those events, what activities were offered, and costs.

Pasieka stated that expenditures were well within the \$1,500 budget for this year's event. He mentioned the support received from Comeau Equipment Company, particularly from Marty Collins who prepared and maintained the ice rinks, supplied wood for the fire, and trucked in snow for the snow cave.

#### **LIAISON COMMENTS**

Schmitt questioned whether there is a need to retain the sign posted in the front of Beverly Park thanking residents for their support of the park.

Schmitt mentioned that the Village has lost a large amount of ash trees along Beverly Road. It has been suggested that a row of Bradford Pears be planted to replace those trees.

#### **ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Pasieka informed the Board that Jan Huszczo has agreed to perform the duties of park opener again this year.

Pasieka stated that Tara Meyers on Devonshire contacted him with a request to use the grill in the pavilion to cook hot dogs and hamburgers for a group on May 28 during the Teen Age Band Night concert in the park. It was indicated that the teen band event was scheduled to coincide with the Groves High School Senior Skip Day.

Board members discussed whether it would be awkward if others in attendance were turned away if food is being prepared in the pavilion during a summer concert series event. Another view was expressed that people often come to the concerts with a picnic without the intention of sharing it with a group.

Motion by Nagle, seconded by Wilms, that the Parks and Recreation Board allow seniors from Groves High School to cook hot dogs in the pavilion on Teen Age Band Night in the park on May 28, 2004.

Motion carried.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Wilms agreed with Schmitt that the "Under Construction" sign posted in Beverly Park has served its purpose and should be removed.

Nagle mentioned that there was discussion at the last meeting about continuing the practice of recognizing people who have contributed to the park by engraving their names on the plaque displayed in the municipal building lobby. There was agreement that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting. Members will nominate people and vote on names of people to be added to the plaque in recognition of their contributions.

Nagle questioned the status of an idea endorsed by the Board to purchase a device to be placed in Village parks that would allow visitors to scoop and seal dog feces in a bag. Pasieka responded that he will follow up on this.

Harmon thanked Nelson and O'Reilly for the wonderful work they did on the Winter Family Fun Day.

Nagle understands that Phil Schmitt will not be running for re-election to Council in March. O'Reilly added that this will be Schmitt's last meeting as Council liaison to the Parks and Recreation Board. Members acknowledged Schmitt's years of service to the Parks and Recreation Board and thanked him for all he has done to assist the Board as liaison from Council. He will be missed.

Motion by O'Reilly, seconded by Harmon, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Motion carried.

**Cynthia Nagle, Vice-Chair  
Parks and Recreation Board**

**Ellen E. Marshall  
Village Clerk**

**Susan Bernard  
Recording Secretary**