

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

Absent: None

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

Chairperson Greening called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by O'Reilly, second by Nelson, that the minutes of a regular Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on October 21, 2004 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Architect Pat Westerlund stated that bids were opened yesterday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m. in the Village offices for the Beverly Park pavilion renovation project. Board members have received a written breakdown of the bid results. Westerlund explained the bid document in terms of the base bid, line item costs, and unit prices. A performance bond was added to the bid specifications. There were a total of seven bids with the apparent low bid from ML Schoenherr at \$225,900.

Westerlund commented that Dorian Construction is the only company that re-bid on the revised pavilion project. He outlined his conversation with the owner of that company regarding why their prices did not come down considering the reductions in the new specifications.

Board members discussed the bid proposals. In an effort to further reduce costs to meet the budgeted amount for this project, consideration was given to replacing the timber truss between the two buildings with a beam of laminated material painted to match the pavilion beams. There was agreement among the majority of the members to retain the natural wood grain beam if possible on the basis that it would enhance the look of the building. Other ways to reduce costs were suggested such as subtracting the landscaping cost from the bid. The Board has requested a grant from the Village Woman's Club for landscaping the pavilion area.

The next step will be for Westerlund to prepare a list of items and do research to determine if the three lowest proposals are from qualified bidders. He has worked with a few and heard of some of the bidders but not all of them. Greening offered to help Westerlund qualify the bidders and check references. In answer to an inquiry, Westerlund stated that the Village could accept the bid from Schoenherr Construction and, during the process, do a change order if necessary to go with a laminated beam.

Motion by Harmon, second by Wilms, to move forward with checking qualifications of the three lowest bidders on the Beverly Park pavilion renovation project: ML Schoenherr, Schoolcraft, and AAD Contracting.

Motion passed.

#### **UPDATE ON BALL DIAMONDS**

O'Reilly reported that he and Pasieka met with Rob Carson of Birmingham Public Schools and did a visual survey of the two ball fields at the park. Carson provided ideas on how to possibly make significant changes within the \$72,000 budget for this project. O'Reilly noted that 95% of the cost of the bids for ball field renovation were for fencing. Carson indicated that the backstops are pretty solid on both of the fields, and they could be repainted rather than replaced. There are companies that could remove the rust and repaint the backstops. Bowed out sections of existing fencing would be replaced. Carson also suggested installing a reinforced horizontal bar on the lower section.

It is feasible that a community organization could take down existing fencing in preparation for putting up new fencing along the first base lines of each field. The plans call for rotating the north diamond by 10 to 15 degrees but keeping the existing backstop. This change would make the backstop slightly offset but would not noticeably affect playing conditions. Other changes to the north ball field would be to move the dugouts behind the fencing.

There was discussion at the last meeting about doing work on the north diamond next year and the south diamond the following year for the reason that volunteer labor would be available from Little League people to work on the south diamond.

O'Reilly stated that retaining the current backstops would save a large amount of money. A couple coats of paint would make them look relatively new. He is hopeful that the ball field renovation could be done with the budgeted \$70,000 amount to cover these changes. Carson suggested going out for bids in February or March for work to be done in August when the fields are not heavily used. He is willing to counsel the Parks and Recreation Board on requiring the proper materials in the bid specifications.

O'Reilly and Davis will work with Carson to prepare specifications for the ball field renovations and present them to administration.

#### **UPDATE ON BRICKS**

Davis reported that brick orders continue to come in.

#### **TREES IN PARK**

Greening stated that Board members learned at the last meeting that money was allocated from the Park and Recreation budget to pay a portion of the Village's matching tree grants for purchasing and planting trees in and around Beverly Park. She and others recall being assured that Park funds would not be used for the Village's \$20,000 share of matching tree planting grants. The Parks and Recreation Board is struggling with accomplishing the park

improvement projects approved for completion with park dedicated millage funds. There followed a discussion of this matter.

Motion by Greening, second by O'Reilly, that the Parks and Recreation Board objects to the Village Council using Park and Recreation funds to pay for the Village's share of matching tree planting grants.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **PROPOSED RESIDENT TREE PROGRAM**

Pasieka asked the Parks and Recreation Board members if they would like to recommend that Council pursue a tree purchase program through Global ReLeaf of Michigan. Trees can be purchased from Global Relief for about \$20 each. They are one-inch diameter, 6 ft. tall bare root trees. Residents could purchase these trees for their own property or donate them to the Village for planting in the park.

Members discussed the program. It was noted that anyone can purchase a tree through Global ReLeaf on their own. Care must be taken to assure the survival of these small trees. The likelihood of these trees surviving in the park was questioned. It was suggested that residents could be made aware through the Villager newsletter that Global ReLeaf offers this program for purchasing trees. It was the sense of the Board that the Village should not sponsor a program through Global ReLeaf.

There was discussion of reviving a tree committee to look at a more comprehensive residential tree planting program.

Motion by Nelson, second by Davis, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommends that the Global ReLeaf tree purchase program is inadequate for the Village and suggests that a Village Tree Committee be reinstated.

Motion passed.

### **WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY**

Nelson stated that the annual Winter Family Fun Day is coming up on Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in Beverly Park. He reported that some research has resulted in a less expensive resource for an ice sculptor who comes highly recommended.

Board members discussed the events proposed for that Sunday in the park. There was agreement that there would be no changes to the planned events this year. The Parks and Recreation Board will send a memo to Council requesting release of the funds budgeted for Winter Family Fun Day.

### **LIAISON COMMENTS**

None

**ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Pasieka informed the Board that the Cub Scout Klondike event is scheduled for Saturday, January 22 in Beverly Park beginning at 8 a.m. It is usually attended by about 600 people. The event will not conflict with the Winter Family Fun Day this year.

Ann Woodman asked the Village Woman’s Club for a \$400 grant for invasive removal at Douglas Evans nature preserve. The Woman’s Club is considering this request along with the \$20,000 grant for landscaping the park pavilion area.

Pasieka stated that the Parks and Recreation fund received a sixth donation from resident Stuart Westcott in the amount of \$750. He has donated \$4,594 over a six year period. Board members talked about making a purchase in his name for the renovated pavilion.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Nagle wished everyone a happy holiday season and a happy new year. Nelson invited Board members to his home after the meeting for a holiday get together.

Wilms thanked Pat Westerlund for his continued efforts on the lengthy park pavilion process. He gave of his time to do all the additional work involved in the plans and specifications for the pavilion renovation project. All Board members agreed that Pat Westerlund has gone above and beyond what was originally anticipated when he was engaged to prepare drawings for a new pavilion.

Harmon thanked Pasieka for his work on the tree planting project in and around the park.

Davis thanked Pat Greening for organizing another even more fabulous Halloween Hoot this year. She commended Dan Nelson for his role at the Hoot.

Greening wished everyone a happy holiday.

Motion by Nagle, second by Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Motion passed.

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

**Ellen E. Marshall  
Village Clerk**

**Susan Bernard  
Recording Secretary**