

Present: Chairperson O'Reilly; Members: Davis, Greening and Schmitt

Absent: Harmon, Nagle and Wilms

Also Present: None

Chairperson O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA

It was the consensus of the Board to add three items to the agenda:

- Item 2A – Consider Eagle Scout Project – Eric Hausman
- Item 4A – Allocation of remaining park millage money
- Item 6A – Park clean up

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Motion by Schmitt, second by Davis, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on February 15, 2007 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed (4 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSIDER EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Boy Scout from Troop 1024 Eric Hausman presented his plans for an Eagle Scout project in Beverly Park. Hausman, a percussionist at Groves High School who plays the piano, is proposing to construct a percussion park for Beverly Park. Handouts were distributed to Board members with drawings of the proposed project and photographs of existing sound gardens located in parks.

Hausman's proposal is to construct three structures in the park that are designed to be played like instruments. He referred to a drawing of a wooden xylophone and explained that different sized hollow logs create different sounds. The xylophone logs would be hit by "drumsticks" to create sounds. Another structure would feature chimes made from recycled brake drums and lengths of wood. A possible third sound instrument would be a large hollow log. Eric and his father Jeffrey Hausman described the construction and components of the structures.

Eric displayed photographs of various sculptures designed to be played like instruments in sound gardens located in Cadillac, Michigan and Park City, Utah. A possible location in Beverly Park for these structures was west of the play structure. The pond area was mentioned as a possibility if the ground is not too wet. Eric proposes to use logs found in Beverly Park and in other parks for the project.

Board members expressed interest and enthusiasm for the sound park project. Eric Hausman addressed questions from members regarding the design, construction and installation of the

structures as well as maintenance and safety issues. It was suggested that the components be located towards the front of the park to minimize vandalism. Eric anticipated the cost to be minimal and proposed to do fund raising to cover expenses. Hausman will recruit other scouts, friends and family for help with this project.

Motion by Schmitt, second by O'Reilly, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommend that Council accept the donation of the proposed rustic percussion equipment to be installed in Beverly Park in an area west of the playground along Beverly Road.

Motion passed (4 – 0).

Jeff Hausman related that another scout was interested in constructing benches in this area. The Board indicated that the Village has gone with installing commercial benches in the park.

STATUS OF SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Cynthia Nagle, summer concert organizer, was not present. O'Reilly stated that the Sun Messengers will open the concert series in Beverly Park on June 21. There will be no concert on June 28 due to lack of funds in the current budget. The next two concerts will be held in the 2007/08 fiscal year, at which time funding for concerts is anticipated with the approval of the budget in May. It is proposed to contract with Three Men and Tenor for the July 19 concert and the Tartar Sauce Jazz Band for July 26.

The show mobile has been reserved from Oakland County for the June 21 concert. The use of the show mobile may not be necessary for the July concerts. Three Men and a Tenor and the jazz band will perform in the patio area of the pavilion.

Members of the Board and public discussed this year's concert schedule, anticipated funding in the upcoming budget, private contributions, and the cost of entertainment for the July concerts.

Motion by Davis, second by Greening, to recommend that Council approve two summer concerts in July pending approval of budget funds of up to \$3,000 for the July 19, 2007 concert in Beverly Park featuring Three Men and a Tenor and up to \$2,000 for the Tartar Sauce Jazz Band scheduled for the July 26, 2007 concert.

Board members discussed the concert schedule and available funds. There were members who raised objections to the high cost of booking Three Men and a Tenor.

Motion passed (4 – 0).

ALLOCATION OF REMAINING PARK MILLAGE

O'Reilly stated that he attended the March 27, 2007 Council budget session and was asked to provide Council with more specific information on the use of the remaining dedicated millage money for budgeting purposes. O'Reilly had distributed a handout to Council listing Parks & Recreation anticipated costs for Events, Annual Maintenance, and Capital Improvements.

There is \$110,699 remaining in the park millage fund. The following expenditures are proposed based on estimated costs:

Tennis court improvements	\$50,000.00
South diamond (Little League)	35,000.00
Volleyball & complete basketball repairs	5,000.00
Park landscaping & irrigation	20,000.00+

It was the consensus of the Parks and Recreation Board to forward a memo to Council outlining the expenditures proposed for remaining park millage money.

With regard to annual maintenance, Schmitt mentioned the need for additional gravel and crushed rock on the main path in Beverly Park.

Janet Mooney of 19111 Devonshire asked whether the Village is going to consider installing an irrigation system in the park to prevent trees from dying. O'Reilly commented that a landscaping plan has not been finalized and that the Board will be looking into the cost of an irrigation system. Mooney requested that the Board have the horseshoe pits repaired for this summer's pavilion rentals.

DISCUSSION OF TOPICS BROUGHT UP AT A JOINT MEETING WITH COUNCIL

Set up soccer field in Beverly Park – the subcommittee will report on projected costs for establishing a soccer field at next month's meeting.

Five-year plan – Greening reported that this subcommittee has talked about a plan for Beverly Park and ideas for pocket parks throughout the Village. It has been suggested to place benches, tables and possible structures in some neighborhood pocket parks. Another possible project is to dredge the Rouge River from Birmingham Country Club to Riverside Park. Dredging the Riverside Park pond was proposed. A sand box and monkey bars would be additions to the Beverly Park playground. Suggestions for Beverly Park or other parks under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Board can be forwarded to Greening or O'Reilly.

Janet Mooney proposed that the Parks and Recreation Board also draft a 15 year plan on the basis that facilities in Beverly Park will need repair or replacement in the future. There may be a need for Council to set aside money annually for future capital park projects.

Jeff Hausman of 31820 Mayfair questioned whether there is a public access entrance into the Hidden Rivers Nature preserve. O'Reilly responded that there is a way cross public land to reach the nature preserve and not cross private property. He can direct Hausman to that access.

Seek grants for future projects - Greening reported that she has been checking into available grants noting that many people are seeking grants and money is tight at this time. Adopting an updated five-year park plan will assist in securing a grant.

New equipment for play structure area – O'Reilly relayed that Wilms has been looking into playground equipment. She has consulted with the individual who is working on the Beverly School playground structure.

Heat for restrooms – Schmitt reported that electric heat would be used to heat the pavilion restrooms in lieu of installing a furnace with a gas line. The Village engineer is preparing a report on the cost of this undertaking.

Irrigating pavilion area – Schmitt indicated that the Village engineer will provide figures on the irrigation project.

Planning Beverly Hills 50th Anniversary in 2008 – O'Reilly anticipates direction from Council on this item.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER LARGE GROUP SURVEY FOR PATRICIA OEN

Members reviewed the large group event planning form submitted by Patricia Oen for a company picnic scheduled for June 2, 2007. There were no objections to the event proposed.

PARK CLEAN UP

The annual Beverly Park clean up will be held on Saturday, May 12. The Lions Club will be contacted to determine whether they will supply refreshments as they do each year. O'Reilly will notify boy scout groups, cub scout groups, and the Little League about the event. Scout leader Laverne Cleary will be contacted. Greening will call LawnCrafters to determine if they will continue their participation in cleaning up the park.

LIAISON COMMENTS

None

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

There was no one present representing Village Administration. O'Reilly reported that Tom Meszler is looking into cost projections for items discussed at this meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS

Davis stated that she and her husband would like to donate a large flowering tree to be planted in Beverly Park and asked where the landscape company should plant the tree. It was suggested that there is a need for shade in the playground area. Board members will assist Davis with selecting a specific area at the May 12 park clean up day.

Greening referred to a recent article in the Free Press indicating that Beverly Hills resident and environmentalist Joellen Gilchrist planned to meet with a group in Beverly Park on April 14 to plant trees and plan a protest for this year's Dream Cruise. Greening objected to anyone planting trees in the park without requesting permission or direction from the Village and suggested that Ms. Gilchrist be notified that this was not proper.

O'Reilly commented that he identified where about three seedlings were planted in the area near the cement sidewalk when he walked through the park on Sunday.

Greening commented that she placed a want-ad in the upcoming edition of the *Villager* newsletter asking help from the community with funding park projects.

O'Reilly mentioned that the Village Council is preparing for a town hall meeting with local business owners on May 17 at 7:30 pm in the municipal building to discuss the state of the Village and ideas for improvements. Everyone is welcome. He congratulated Phil Schmitt on his appointment to the position of Southfield Township Supervisor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

**Jim O'Reilly, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Board**

**Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk**

**Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary**