

Present: Chairperson O'Reilly; Vice-Chair Greening; Members: Arvant, Davis, Kondak and Nagle

Absent: Schmitt

Also Present: None

Chairperson O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in Beverly Park.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 19, 2008**

Motion by Davis, second by Greening, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on June 19, 2008 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Don Greening commented that he was pleased to see that the gazebo was repaired and that the fencing along the perimeter of the pavilion was completed.

**REVIEW RECENT PLANTING OF TREE AT RIVERSIDE PARK**

Alda Marie McCook of 19370 Riverside Drive donated a tree that was planted at Riverside Park with the approval of the Parks and Recreation Board. The tree was purchased and planted at no expense to the Village. McCook observed that there was a need for shade where people sit by the pond. A sign was erected that reads, "To plant a tree is to believe in tomorrow". It includes the date of October 21 to commemorate the birthday of her deceased husband, Jim McCook, an active and dedicated member of the community.

McCook mentioned that the Village DPW will be watering the Maple tree a few times a week until it is established. O'Reilly thanked Alda Marie McCook for taking the initiative and planting the tree.

**REVIEW RECENT ADDITION OF FENCING AT PAVILION**

Board members thanked Tom Meszler for his assistance with installing fencing along the northeast perimeter of the pavilion. Gutters and downspouts will be added at the eastern corner of the pavilion. Wood chips will be provided in that area; members should contact Meszler if they have landscaping suggestions.

**STATUS OF TENNIS COURT RENOVATIONS**

The tennis court surface improvements have been completed, and new fencing will be installed next. O'Reilly will be communicating with people from the fencing company about providing a quote for six-foot fencing at the south baseball diamond. It is a possibility that the project could be done this summer.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING POSSIBLE CONCERTS FOR NEXT SUMMER**

Nagle reported on a meeting with Pat Greening and Cynthia Arvant about summer concerts in the park for 2009. Their committee is still in the idea stage and intends to contact possible sponsors.

Nagle related that she talked with the person who organized the Birmingham Jazz Festival regarding ideas for promoting and financing Beverly Hills summer concerts. One of her suggestions was to partner with a local business to distribute coupons that advertise Beverly Hills Concerts in the Park. The use of those coupons would reinforce their sponsorship and publicize the event. Another idea was to get the word out by highlighting one or two neighborhoods at each concert. Nagle thought that offering the sale of food in the park from a local business would be an inducement for people to attend the events. It was suggested that electronic signage at Market Fresh be used to publicize concerts in the park.

Greening proposed coming up with another activity that would draw community members into the park on a summer evening. Alternative ideas were suggested including a pet parade, movie night, theater in the park, art show, or talent show. The idea would be to obtain community support for the event. Board members were encouraged to think of a theme for a Summer Family Fun Day in early August. It was emphasized that a decision will have to be made soon in order to put a date in the Village calendar. Members agreed that the committee could decide on a date for a summer park activity.

Nagle stated that booking music in the park is not difficult; the question is how much money will be available from the Village and outside donations. Board members were asked to contact Greening, Arvant or Nagle if they have any ideas. The Parks and Recreation Board is still considering concerts but may focus on a summer family fun day event as an alternative.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER LARGE GROUP SURVEY FOR KATIE HEALEY**

There were no objections to the large group event planning application from Katie Healey for September 19, 2008.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Davis nominated Jim O'Reilly for the position of chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Board. There were no further nominations. O'Reilly was elected chairperson by acclamation.

O'Reilly nominated Greening as Vice-Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board. There were no further nominations. Greening was elected Vice-Chairperson by acclamation.

**LIAISON COMMENTS**

None

**ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Davis commented that she was happy to have the fencing completed around the pavilion.

Nagle thanked Mrs. McCook for her donation of the tree at Riverside Park. Nagle referred to the May Parks and Recreation Board meeting, at which time Brother Rice High School presented a proposal to invest a substantial amount of money to create a baseball complex in Beverly Park and use the park for its baseball program. Nagle did not think that this item was handled as well as it could have been. It was her view that additional consideration should have been given to the proposal, considering the resources that Brother Rice was willing to put into park improvements. Nagle also thought that the applicants could have been treated with more respect by audience members.

Greening suggested that administration add benches around the gazebo, which would reinforce the structure and thwart vandalism. She thanked Alda Marie McCook for planting the tree at Riverside Park.

O'Reilly commented that there is a need for a Parks and Recreation Board member to oversee the Beverly Park cleanup for next year. He reported that the Birmingham-Beverly Hills Softball League made a \$100 donation to Beverly Park at the conclusion of their season.

O'Reilly mentioned that resident Howard Knorr has applied for a \$1,000 grant to clean up the islands in the Riverside Park area. The Village would provide matching resources in terms of labor.

O'Reilly congratulated Dan Nelson for winning a Republican nomination for the Southfield Township Board of Trustees. He informed the Board that only six candidates have filed petitions to run for seven Beverly Hills council seats. The seventh person could be elected as a write-in candidate. If Board members know of anyone who would be a good candidate for Village Council, there is paperwork to fill out before their name can be written on the ballot.

Motion by Davis, second by Kondak, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Motion passed.