

Present: Chairperson O'Reilly; Members: Davis, Kondak and Nagle

Absent: Arvant, Greening, Schmitt

Also Present: Village Manager, Wilson
Council liaison, Briggs

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

APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 29, 2009 PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Motion by Davis, second by Nagle, that the minutes of a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on May 21, 2009 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Janet Mooney of 19111 Devonshire commented that Brother Rice went to the Birmingham Commission with a proposal to build ball diamonds at St. James Park. It appears that the City of Birmingham may not be going forward with improvements to the park property behind the Birmingham YMCA due to the economy. This proposal has been referred to the Birmingham Planning Commission and their Parks and Recreation Board for review.

Mooney thanked Cynthia Nagle for her participation on the Parks and Recreation Board. She did a great job, and she will be missed.

Loma Schmitt of 18103 of Riverside thanked Cynthia Nagle for her service on the Parks and Recreation Board and particularly for her involvement with concerts in the park.

DISCUSS REINSTATING FRIENDS OF BEVERLY PARK – DISCUSS ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Parks and Recreation Board has been considering reinstating the Friends of Beverly Park organization to raise money for park capital improvements. The Board does not anticipate receiving needed funding to maintain park facilities and equipment due to the Village's current and projected budget shortfalls.

Janet Mooney informed the Board that she had a conversation with former Council President Dave Domzal, who has been a proponent of establishing a community foundation in Beverly Hills. He has suggested organizing a 501c3 nonprofit organization to raise money for the park separate from Village accounts. The Parks and Recreation Board could assist with fund raising, but it would not be the responsibility of the Board to conduct the fund raising. Requests for funding from the Parks and Recreation Board would go to the nonprofit organization for approval. Dave Domzal has volunteered to do the 501c3 paperwork at no charge. Mooney does not think that there would be anything prohibiting the Board from pursuing this course of action. She questioned whether there was interest on the part of the members.

Board members discussed the idea of establishing a community foundation and how it would function. A seven member board separate from the Parks and Recreation Board would control the funds. Board members could include board members and members at large who have an interest in Beverly Hills.

Briggs encouraged the creation of a community foundation. He thought that there were non-residents who use the park and may donate money.

Wilson did not think Council would have a problem with the establishment of a 501c3 community organization. The Board would need Council approval in terms of how the money is spent if it was a capital project or a structural improvement.

Motion by O'Reilly second by Davis, that the Parks and Recreation Board wholeheartedly supports the formation of a 501c3 community foundation to be organized by citizens of the Village.

Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS ART IN THE PARK POSSIBILITIES

O'Reilly recalled that the subject of holding an art show in the park was discussed earlier in the year but deferred until after the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival. An individual was scheduled to attend a Board meeting to talk about endeavors she had undertaken with regard to art shows in various communities in southeast Michigan. It was also suggested that the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association might have some input on organizing an art show in Beverly Park. Davis commented on an art show sponsored by the Women of Bloomfield at the Masonic Temple.

Board members suggested deferring discussion of an art show in the park until the July meeting. O'Reilly will make inquiries of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. The individual who organized the art show held on the campus of St. Mary's School in Orchard Lake will be contacted and invited to attend next month's meeting.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CARNIVAL

O'Reilly and Board members evaluated the success of the Memorial Day parade and carnival held on May 26. O'Reilly did not have a final accounting of the event but estimated a net profit of \$7,000. There was about \$13,000 worth of tickets sold. There was roughly \$5,500 in contributions from businesses and individuals. There was more than \$700 generated from the silent auction. Tickets were sold with the understanding that 80% of the profit would go to those collecting tickets for the function they were putting on.

The cost of the parade was about \$1,400. The money spent on Sparty was refunded when the mascot did not appear on Memorial Day due to a family emergency. Sparty offered to make himself available for the parade at no charge next year and to attend a function in the park this summer. O'Reilly reported on a number of expenses related to the parade and carnival.

Board members analyzed the games, events and food offered at the carnival and discussed ideas and improvements that could be implemented next year. Efforts will be made to secure a band for the parade. It was suggested that the Board provide a stage and engage bands to play during the event.

Board members agreed that the parade and carnival went smoothly for their first year of organizing the event. O'Reilly related that the President of the Village Women's Club said that it appeared to be a seamless transfer from the Women's Club to the Parks and Recreation Board. Kondak added that the Board had excellent documentation on how the parade and carnival worked previously and had the help of experienced volunteers. O'Reilly reported that he attended the Council meeting following the Memorial Day event and thanked as many people as he could.

RECOGNITION OF CYNTHIA NAGLE'S SERVICE ON THE PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Cynthia Nagle has been a member of the Parks and Recreation Board since 2002. O'Reilly asserted that the concerts in the park would not have taken place if it were not for Cynthia. They were discontinued due to lack of funding and not for lack of her effort to keep them going. Cynthia was present at all park functions and was involved with engaging volunteers to help at events. O'Reilly thanked Cynthia for her time, effort, and good spirits.

Board members related how much they have enjoyed working with Cynthia and expressed appreciation for everything she has done for the park. She brought a lot of good ideas to the Board and was an active participant. Members wished her well going forward and hoped to see her at future activities.

Dan Nelson commented on Cynthia's hard work and enthusiasm. On behalf of Council, Walter Briggs expressed appreciation to Cynthia Nagle for her service on the Board. He commented on her pleasant demeanor and said that it was fun working with her on the Memorial Day parade.

Nagle stated that she has enjoyed her time on the Parks and Recreation Board. Recent changes in her life have led to her decision not to ask to be reappointed to the Board at this time. She said that it was great to be part of this group staffed by people who really care about the community.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Briggs commended the Parks and Recreation Board for stepping up to the challenge of taking over the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival with great results. Council is thrilled to be able to recognize the members of the Board for their hard work.

Briggs thought that creating a community foundation to help fund the park was something that will be greatly needed over the next couple of years.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Wilson thanked the Parks and Recreation Board for doing a great job of organizing the Memorial Day events. He suggested that it might work well if members of the Board would meet with him or Ellen Marshall immediately after a park event to discuss items that did not go as well as they

could have. He urged members to contact administration if there are items that need to be addressed, and a file will be kept for reference next year.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board members thanked Cynthia Nagle again for her help and commitment to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Kondak thanked members of the Parks and Recreation Board, Administration, Council, and everyone in the community who helped with the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival. It was a huge team effort. He thought it was a good suggestion to document lessons learned and what could be done to improve the event next year.

Davis commented on the success of the carnival adding that people would have been disappointed if the event had been canceled. She recognized the many members of the Women's Club who were present to help out.

Nagle thanked members of the community who volunteered to help with the parade and carnival. She asserted that it was important to retain these kinds of community events during difficult economic times. Nagle mentioned that she attended the Relay for Life held in Beverly Park last weekend. The organizers did an impressive job on the event.

O'Reilly reported that there are recycle bins at the two baseball fields. He informed the Board that bids are due on June 23, 2009 for improvements to the south baseball diamond. If the cost is within the budgeted amount, the expectation is that the renovations to the south diamond will be done in mid to late July.

Lisa Ross was appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board to fill the vacancy created by Cynthia Nagle. O'Reilly related that Lisa has been involved in Little League Baseball for a number of years as well as the Birmingham Patriot Youth football league and the Groves football program. She will attend next month's meeting.

O'Reilly concluded by saying that the Memorial Day parade and carnival was a huge community and financial success. It could not have happened without all the members of the Parks and Recreation Board who realized that this community event had to continue.

Motion by Nagle, second by Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Motion passed.