

Present: Council: President Pro-Tem Koss; Members: Briggs, Mercer, Mooney and Peddie

Parks & Recreation Board: Chairperson Kondak; Vice-Chair O'Reilly; Members: Arvant, Davis, Greening, Ross and Schmitt

Absent: Council: Oen and Stearn

Chairperson Kondak called the joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board and the Village Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in Beverly Park.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING OF MAY 20, 2010**

Motion by Schmitt, second by Davis, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on May 20, 2010 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Janet Mooney of 19111 Devonshire said that she reserved the pavilion for her son's graduation party on the same day as the Relay for Life, the 24-hour Cancer fundraising event held in the park. Overall, it was not a problem because the people renting the pavilion on that day were able to have their parties. She brought a few problem issues to the attention of the Parks and Recreation Board and Village administration so that scheduling of the facilities could be adjusted accordingly.

There were sleeping tents set up for the Relay on both sides of the basketball court, which rendered it unusable. Mooney said that the bathroom floors were soaked when she arrived because Relay participants were rinsing sand off their children in the restrooms. There was competition for parking with the Relay event and pavilion parties occurring simultaneously. Mooney suggested that the organizers of the Relay for Life may want to rent the pavilion for the day. She commended park opener Larry Tomasino for his help in the pavilion.

Kondak remarked that the Relay for Life event came before Council for approval and was not reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Matt Roman of 32021 Weston Drive asked to be on the agenda for next month's Parks and Recreation Board meeting. At the May meeting, he presented a proposal for a Beverly Hills Community Garden in Beverly Park. Roman provided Marshall with a handout outlining his response to questions from the Board regarding park deed restrictions and the Village master plan. Roman asked that the sheet be distributed to Board members prior to their next meeting.

**UPDATE ON EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS**

Drew Steffes reported that he has completed his Eagle Scout project, which was to replace damaged boards, clean, and re-stain the sled hill fence in the park. The work was finished on May 23, 2010 with the help of 25 volunteers and 234 hours spent on the project. He raised \$500 to cover expenses by holding a can and bottle drive; \$350 was paid by the Village toward the

cost of the project. Council and Board members applauded Drew for a job well done on the sled hill fence. Steffes thanked the Parks and Recreation Board for the opportunity to do the project for the Village.

Andrew Hausman, Scout from Troop 1024, presented a proposal to construct a sandbox in the playground area as his Eagle Scout project. He asked the Parks and Recreation Board where they would want the sandbox to be located. There followed discussion on the placement of a previous sandbox that was removed and requirements for providing a safe play situation. A few Board members offered to walk over to the playground area with Hausman after the meeting to narrow down the location.

### **REVIEW AND DISCUSS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CARNIVAL**

O'Reilly commented on the success of the Memorial Day parade and carnival. He provided highlights of the outstanding parade, which lasted until about 12:30 p.m. The carnival was great for as long as it went. The crowd was down in numbers this year, and a sudden storm ended the carnival early at 2 p.m. There was agreement that the flag ceremony was a highlight of the day and that Grand Marshal Stan Pasioka did a wonderful job of leading the parade and presenting inspiring remarks at the ceremony along with John Mooney.

Board members analyzed the games, events, music, and food offered at the carnival and discussed ideas and improvements that could be implemented next year. O'Reilly reported on a number of expenses related to the parade and carnival. He did not have a final accounting of the event but estimated a net profit of \$4,000. There was about \$9,100 worth of tickets sold, down \$4,000 from last year. There was roughly \$5,000 in contributions from businesses and individuals. The Village's contribution was \$1350.

O'Reilly suggested designating a person to be in charge of coordinating publicity for the parade and carnival next year. This may help to increase the attendance at the event. A new banner is needed to advertise the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival. O'Reilly thought that consideration should be given to providing parking for handicapped or elderly people.

Arvant reported on her experience with the food court this year noting that there will be some improvements next year. She thanked Pat and Don Greening for being in charge of bottled water sales, which was a huge success. Ross related that all the volunteers did a great job including the Groves High School students, Groves football team, Scouts, Village Woman's Club members, and others. Kondak concluded that the parade and carnival went well, and O'Reilly did a terrific job of organizing the entire event.

### **DISCUSS HAVING PARKS & RECREATION BOARD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR HALLOWEEN HOOT**

Greening stated that she has organized and raised funds for the Halloween Hoot in past years with the help of a couple of others. There have been numerous volunteers with Parks and Recreation Board members always there to help conduct the event. The Halloween Hoot is funded by donations from various sources in and around the community who donate every year. There are donations collected as people are coming or going from the park during the event. Greening reported that there is about \$3,000 surplus this year for use at next year's Hoot.

Greening asked whether the Parks and Recreation Board members would like to bring the Halloween Hoot under the auspices of the Board. She said that she was having more difficulty physically organizing the event.

O'Reilly commented on the fund raising aspect, noting that the Board spends its energy raising money for the Memorial Day event in the winter. He was concerned about approaching the same people and organizations. Koss made the suggestion to determine the cost of the Hoot and Memorial Day events and send a letter to supporters stating how much is needed in donations for the two events. In this way, business people would have an accounting of how much it costs the Village to put on the events.

O'Reilly related that it has been brought to the Board's attention since it took over the Memorial Day function that the Village should not be in the business of earning money. The process of establishing a 501c3 nonprofit organization is being explored in order to raise money for the park separate from Village accounts.

Schmitt stated that Parks and Recreation Board members and others have been working on the Halloween Hoot for years and will continue doing their part in making it happen. Greening agreed that everyone helps on the day of the event. She thought that the Board would want to have the Hoot under their direction. If not, she would carry on the way it has been run. O'Reilly concurred that the Hoot has been a function involving Parks and Recreation Board members.

Manager Wilson stated that Village auditors have been recommending in the last couple of years that the Village needs to get out of the festival business. The accounting is cumbersome. The Parks and Recreation Board is relying on the good graces of Council that this money will go where the Board wants it allocated. It could be a problem in the future. Wilson thought it was inevitable that the Parks and Recreation Board would take over the Halloween Hoot at some point. When a 501c3 nonprofit organization is created, it will be the perfect home for this type of event. Having the Halloween Hoot and Memorial Day events associated with the 501c3 would provide some protection from the Board's other funds. It would also spread out any risk associated with these functions over three or four events.

Wilson understood that people want to make sure that all the money raised at an event stays in the park. That is the purpose of a 501c3 designation. Beverly Park would be designated as a recipient of any profits made. If extra money is raised, it is guaranteed to go back to the park. That is the nature of the organization. Wilson added that there is nothing to say that the Village cannot continue to support community events. A 501c3 organization gives the Village the freedom to meet those goals of protecting money that the Parks and Recreation Board raises on its own and ensures that it goes where the Board wants it to go.

Kondak agreed that fund raising for the park should be kept separate from conducting community events. The main goal is to keep these events going.

O'Reilly said that, ultimately, there will be a 501c3 non-profit organization created. The Memorial Day functions will fall under the aegis of that and so will the Halloween Hoot. O'Reilly remarked that Parks and Recreation Board members currently do most of the work at the Halloween Hoot under the direction of Pat Greening. Nothing will be changed at this point.

Schmitt concurred that the Parks and Recreation Board will continue to conduct the Halloween Hoot with Pat Greening as chair. It was the sense of the entire Board that it would assist Pat Greening with the Halloween Hoot.

### **PICNIC IN THE PARK UPDATE**

Arvant stated that the Parks and Recreation Board will sponsor a Picnic in the Park on Wednesday, July 21 from 5:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. This will be a free event where families come to Beverly Park with their picnic dinners and socialize with their neighbors. Arvant is working on getting an ice cream cart sponsored for the event.

Oakland County Parks and Recreation will provide its Mobile Recreation Unit called, “Old School Playground Program” at no charge to the Village. They bring equipment for activities including kickball, whiffle ball baseball, hockey boards, hula hoops, marbles/jacks, Silly Putty, Play-Doh, yo-yo's, sidewalk chalk and craft projects. The county will provide people to run the games from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

A flyer went home to Beverly School children publicizing the event. Board members were asked to spread the word of this event throughout the community. Arvant will email the flyer to Ellen Marshall.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Koss stated that she appreciated the Parks and Recreation Board members and the great job that they do. During economic times like this when people are struggling, it is good to see people come out for the parade and carnival.

Peddie remarked that the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival were wonderful events, and she appreciated the work that went into it.

Briggs echoed the comments made in appreciation of the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Board. He also thanked the Board for its work on renovating the baseball diamonds.

Council members congratulated Irene Davis on her reappointment to the Parks and Recreation Board for another three-year term.

Peddie indicated an interest in organizing a woman’s softball league in the community that would play in Beverly Park. She will contact O’Reilly about reserving a field.

Koss announced that Market Fresh will be having its annual store picnic on Sunday, June 27 at the Beverly Park pavilion from 12-5 p.m. The community is invited.

### **ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Wilson reminded the Board that the Beverly Hills Athletic Club received Council approval to reserve the Beverly Park tennis courts for specific days and times this summer. He asked Board members to contact him if they hear of any issues regarding this use of the courts.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Board members congratulated Irene Davis on her reappointment to the Parks and Recreation Board and congratulated Tim Mercer on his appointment to Council.

Schmitt gave a number of people credit for their help with the Memorial Day event including Jim O'Reilly, Pat Westerlund, Bill Kondak, Cindy Arvant, and others. He gave John Ross recognition for helping with the parking lot duty.

Arvant thanked everyone for their help on the carnival. She is looking forward to the picnic and the Hoot. Davis said that she had a wonderful time at the parade and carnival. Ross thanked everyone who helped with the carnival and said that she had lots of volunteers. Greening commented on the successful sale of water at the carnival this year.

Kondak thanked Board members and all of the other volunteers for their work on the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival. It was a spectacular event. He was particularly pleased with the ceremony honoring our veterans and fallen soldiers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.