

Present: Council: President Koss; President Pro-Tem Briggs; Members: Burry, LaFerriere and Mooney

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

Absent: Council: Mercer and Oen

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 19, 2011

Motion by Schmitt, second by Davis, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on May 19, 2011 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

UPDATE ON EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS

Andrew Hausman, Scout from Troop 1024 and sophomore at Groves High School, updated the Board on his Eagle Scout project, which is to construct a sandbox in the playground area. He presented his plans for the sandbox. Hausman distributed renderings of the structure and a sheet outlining research that he has done on material, suppliers, and cost figures. He described the design and construction of the 16' x 12' sandbox. The cost to construct the sandbox was estimated at \$600.

Hausman proposed purchasing a digger toy for the sandbox at a cost of about \$730. He mentioned the possibility of holding a bottle and can drive to raise money for the digger. A \$100 grant from the Village Woman's Club may be available towards his Eagle Scout project.

Questions and comments from Board members on the construction and materials were addressed by Hausman. He would like to start on the project soon and have it completed by mid-July.

Motion by O'Reilly, second by Davis, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommend that Council approve the plan for an Eagle Scout Project presented by Andrew Hausman for installation of a sandbox at the Beverly Park playground area with the understanding that the Parks and Recreation Board would agree to allocate up to \$950 for materials needed to install the sandbox.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

Marshall commented that representatives from the MMRMA (Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority) insurance company will be in Beverly Park next week to conduct an

inspection of the playground equipment. The Board agreed that it would be appropriate to consult with the insurance people at that time about specifications for the sandbox.

UPDATE ON TERRACING/LANDSCAPING NORTH AND SOUTH SIDES OF SLED HILL

Davis reported that a representative from Goldner Walsh Nursery looked at the sled hill in terms of terracing work and plantings needed to provide safety and aesthetics to that area. The proposal is to do the planting in the fall. It is anticipated that the Board will be in receipt of a plan with recommendations and cost estimates from Goldner Walsh by its July meeting. Board and Council members discussed plans to terrace the sled hill in order to curtail erosion on both sides of the hill.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CARNIVAL

O'Reilly reported on this year's Memorial Day parade and carnival. The Board made money on the event even though ticket sales were way down from two years ago; ticket sales were about \$7,200 this year. It was noted that there was record attendance early during the carnival, but the crowd was sparse by 1:30 p.m. O'Reilly was open to any ideas on how to improve tickets sales.

O'Reilly said that costs were kept down this year. A final accounting is not available, but he estimated a net profit of \$4,400. There were donations in the amount of \$6,850.00. There were fewer community organizations participating in games this year.

O'Reilly provided highlights of the outstanding parade and carnival and reported on a number of expenses related to the activities. Board members analyzed the games, activities, music and timing of events and discussed ideas and improvements that could be implemented next year. The help of many volunteers was acknowledged.

The cost of renting sound equipment and speakers each year was mentioned. O'Reilly suggested that the Parks and Recreation Board consider purchasing portable equipment that could be used for Memorial Day and other functions such as the Halloween Hoot, Opening Day for Little League, movie night, etc. Briggs remarked that he recently researched the purchase of speakers and a public address system for Berkshire Middle School. He offered to provide that information to the Board.

O'Reilly informed those present that the observation has been made that Beverly Hills is one of the few communities that does not have a veterans memorial. Koss interjected that she and Ellen Marshall have been attempting to generate interest in a veterans memorial. One of the difficulties has been that veterans in the community are reluctant to come forward to be recognized. Greening remarked that there are no local organized veterans groups.

O'Reilly thought it was a worthy endeavor to look into establishing a memorial to veterans in Beverly Hills. He noted that resident Paul Kleppert has expressed an interest in pursuing this.

Arvant reported on her experience with the operation of the food court this year. Food sales went well. However, she expressed concern that most of the people at the carnival were gone by 2 p.m. This may be due to a lack of interest coupled by the heat of the day. Arvant suggested that

consideration be given to having a Memorial Day parade and flag ceremony next year without the carnival. The carnival involves a lot of effort in terms of organizing and fund raising prior to the event and work on the day of the event, for little return. Maybe a carnival could be held every other year.

Koss commented on the types of midway games available at the Birmingham carnival and the money those games generate. She questioned the cost of expanding the midway games.

Council and Board members thanked O'Reilly for chairing the Memorial Day event this year and Pat Westerlund for organizing the parade.

REVIEW TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER 242-NP-11 REGULATING PARKING TIMES AT RIVERSIDE PARK

Manager Chris Wilson reviewed that administration came before the Parks and Recreation Board a few months ago to discuss a problem that a resident who lives across the street from Riverside Park was having with people in the park after hours during the winter. The concern was that people were using the park as a congregation point in the cold weather months when it was dark long before 10 p.m. The resident cited littering, disorderly conduct, loud noise and music, and vehicular traffic at night in the area of the park. The individual related that he had a vehicle stolen from his property.

Wilson spoke with the Public Safety Department and was informed that they come upon people at 9-9:30 p.m. at night at Riverside Park when it is dark. The Village Ordinance states that parks are to remain open until 10 p.m. Wilson spoke with Public Services Director Tom Meszler and Attorney Tom Ryan about available options. The option exists that the Village Council could approve a Traffic Control Order that would prohibit parking on the south side of Riverside east of Evergreen Road at the parking lot for Riverside Park as follows: November 1st through March 31 from 6 pm through 6 am; April 1 through October 31 from 10 pm through 6 am, when signs giving notice of same are erected.

Wilson stated that resident Kent Mirabito thought that the Traffic Control Order regulating parking times at Riverside Park was reasonable; Public Safety was agreeable with the measure. Wilson wanted to bring this to the attention of the Parks and Recreation Board for their input before bringing the TCO to Council for consideration. Comments and questions from Board members were addressed by Wilson. There were no objections to the proposed Traffic Control Order.

MOVIE IN THE PARK UPDATE

Arvant stated that Movie Night in the Park is scheduled for Wednesday, August 24 with a rain date of Thursday, August 25. The Board has a signed contract with Stardust Theater Rental Company that secures the date, movie screen, sound system, personnel to set up and take down the equipment, and on-site support staff. Popcorn will be free to participants; a sponsor will cover the cost. Arvant understands that there is a sponsor for the cost of licensing the movie as well. The movie to be shown has not yet been chosen. The suggestion was made to select the movie in time to publicize the event.

Residents are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner to the park on that day. There will be a bounce house in the park for children to use before the movie. It was provided through a grant from the Oakland County 2011 Recreation Assistance Partnership.

DISCUSS PARK AND RECREATION TOPICS WITH COUNCIL

LaFerriere questioned the status of the idea to establish a 501c3 nonprofit organization in order to receive donations and raise money for the park separate from Village accounts. Kondak commented on discussion that has taken place relative to a 501c3 designation. Schmitt remarked that any check made to the Village donating money to the park is tax deductible.

O'Reilly reviewed that the Board has had conversations about what needs to be done to create a 501c3 organization and the composition of the community foundation board. Since that time, the Board has reviewed the Resolution creating the Parks and Recreation Board, which states that one of its functions is to raise money for the parks. If that was one of the founding purposes for creating a Parks and Recreation Board, it was questioned why a separate entity would be required to raise money and reserve it for park use. The Board has not taken further steps towards establishing a 501c3 designation.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Members of Council commented that the Parks and Recreation Board has done an outstanding job for the community and asked them to keep up the great work. Their efforts are appreciated.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Wilson related that the Village received a check in the amount of \$300 for park use from the Beverly Hills Athletic Club.

Marshall informed the Board that the irrigation contractor will start work on the irrigation system next week. She mentioned that signs were erected as requested in the restrooms.

Some of the free seedlings planted a couple of years ago at the back of the park west of the hill have grown to a height of 3-4 feet. Administration is looking for suggested locations for transplanting those trees. The Board was asked to give this some consideration and provide recommendations.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board members thanked Council for the support that they provide the Parks and Recreation Board. They welcomed new Council member Greg Burry.

Kondak thanked Board members for their help on the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival. He thanked Pat Westerlund for organizing the parade again this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.