

Present: Parks & Recreation Board: Chairperson Borgon; Vice-Chair Goodrich; Members: Hausman, Kondak, Ruprich, and Schmitt

Council: President Peddie; President Pro-Tem Abboud; Members: George, Hrydziuszko, Mooney, Mueller, and Nunez

Absent: Parks & Recreation Board Member: Davis

Also Present: Village Manager Wilson

Chairperson Borgon called the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE MINUTES OF A REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 15, 2018

Motion by Schmitt, second by Kondak, that the minutes of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting held on November 15, 2018 be approved.

Motion passed.

LONG TERM PLANNING FOR VILLAGE PARKS

Mueller reviewed the long-term budgeting plan that was developed in 2018. The spreadsheet shows the year installed, approximate installation cost, annual maintenance cost, scheduled replacement and replacement cost. Replacement costs, or reserves, have been calculated based on life expectancy and prorated over the number of years until replacement. Budgeted expenses for FY 2019-20 total \$215,000; a large majority of this expense will be the buckthorn eradication. The large-scale removal of the buckthorn means that the reforestation project will be the top priority of the Board. This should include applying for grants and reaching out to the community.

Ruprich arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Longer term, Mueller would like to see a focus on Riverside Park and pocket parks located throughout the Village. The intention of the Council is to include the Parks in the 2020 millage request.

Hrydziuszko offered to reach out to the MSU Forestry program and consult on appropriate plants for the wetland areas. She and Hausman will work together on grants and the reforestation project plan. She also hopes to work with the Board on ways to help residents learn more about combating buckthorn on their own properties.

Hausman encouraged the Board to look forward to 2023 when the playground equipment will need to be replaced, at that time they should also consider changing the surface material on the playground.

George believes that residents want to, and will, invest in making the community a better place. He believes that publicizing the suggested Riverside Park design would help to get people excited to see their money going back into the community.

The Board and Council discussed ways to promote the millage and the allocation of millage funds for the Parks. They agreed the need for a balance between using upcoming projects to generate support and excitement and recognizing residents concern about tax rates. The intention is to prioritize pockets parks if the millage is passed.

Other suggestions included adding a few new community events at Beverly Park, possibly having a warming cabin at the back of the park for the winter season, murals, new signs, concert events, more lighting, seasonal events and holiday decorations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council thanked the Board for their work and dedication to the parks and the beautification of the Village.

Mooney reported the Park Ranger program will continue in 2019. In addition to their normal daily duties, their project list includes painting the fence on the hill, repainting the dugouts, painting the disc golf signs, spreading fresh wood chips on the walking paths, and cleaning up the fence line at Allerton.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Wilson reported that he was contacted by the DNR and they requested some updates to the Five-Year Plan, which Administration will follow up on. Buckthorn eradication has begun in Beverly Park; they will have the areas where they are working taped off, ensuring the safety of park users.

BOARD COMMENTS

All members of the Board thanked Council for their ongoing support.

Goodrich reported the hope is to have the Winter Family Fun Day popup in the upcoming weeks when the snow comes.

Hausman reported the logo for the Board continues to be a project she is collaborating on.

Kondak asked that DPW work on the gravel path come spring; it will need filling and grating, and better drainage.

Borgon suggested a small fence to create a defined space for the pocket park at Beverly and Greenfield. She suggested doing Park fundraisers like a 5K, sponsored tree decorating or scarecrows along the fences during the Halloween Hoot. She presented Wilson with \$300 raised at the Holiday Lights event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Molly Borgon
Parks & Recreation Board
Chairperson

Lee Peddie
Council President

Chris Wilson
Village Manager

Elizabeth Lyons
Recording Secretary