

Present: Chairperson Arvant; Members: Davis, Hausman, and Schmitt

Absent: Greening and Ruprich

Also Present: Assistant Manager/Clerk, Marshall  
Council Liaison, Mooney

Chairperson Arvant called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in Beverly Park.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF A REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD JULY 19, 2012**

Motion by Schmitt, second by Davis, that the minutes of a regular Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on July 19, 2012 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Janet Mooney of 19111 Devonshire announced that volunteers are needed to help top and gut pumpkins for the Halloween Hoot beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 21.

**PRESENTATION REGARDING NATIVE PLANTINGS AT RIVERSIDE PARK – HEATHER HUFFSTUTLER FROM OAKLAND COUNTY AND DONNA FOLLAND FROM THE SIX RIVERS LAND CONSERVANCY**

Donna Folland from Oakland County explained the history of the Habitat Plan for the Rouge River Corridor which started back in 2004. The Six Rivers Land Conservancy, a non-profit group that works with the Rouge Green Corridor, utilized a grant it received to install a buffer zone at Riverside Park. The purpose of the project was to create a natural buffer comprised of native plants to improve bank stabilization around the river. Folland mentioned that the maintenance of the park plantings would be the responsibility of the community.

Resident Alda Marie McCook expressed disappointment in the project as did Board Member Irene Davis. Hausman related that a garden planted at Beverly School took three years to fill in and look good. Kondak agreed that native plants will thrive and be attractive over time because they are suited to weather conditions in the area.

Manager Wilson took the responsibility for the lack of communication with the Parks and Recreation Board regarding this project. He talked about his recent meeting with Folland and Huffstutler on the site and the decision to update the design and plantings. He informed the Board that native grasses will be planted in the area near the picnic table to address erosion. Arvant extended her appreciation to Folland and Huffstutler for attending the meeting.

**DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT OF LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR RIVERSIDE PARK AS REFERRED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

Administration has received a revised landscape plan for Riverside Park from the Rouge Green Corridor organization. It was understood that it would take some time to fully appreciate the effect of the various native plants that bloom during different seasons of the year.

Kondak commented on areas where there is erosion and questioned if there is something that the Village could do in terms of planting grass. Wilson referred to the landscape plan and described which areas would be replanted with grass.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Kondak, to accept Administration's revised landscape plan for Riverside Park as presented by the Rouge Green Corridor including maintenance and erosion control.

Motion passed.

### **MOVIE IN THE PARK UPDATE**

The movie in the park night was held on Wednesday, August 22 in Beverly Park and attended by about 200 people. The movie showed was "The Lorax". The fun event received a positive response and will be considered again next year. Board members thanked Arvant for her efforts in organizing the movie night.

### **UPDATE ON ADULT EXERCISE FACILITIES IN THE PARK**

Arvant discussed Council member LaFerriere's suggestion to install outdoor exercise equipment in the park. He provided Board members with links to videos showing parks in other states with these types of facilities. It was described as a growing trend nationwide.

Arvant researched this idea. Many communities are installing outdoor exercise equipment with grants through partnerships with hospitals, health care providers, or insurance companies. The equipment is very expensive. Arvant looked into major suppliers of the equipment in Michigan. The outdoor gyms are weather resistant, but they are installed primarily in climates where the equipment is used all year. Arvant cited the cost of various types of equipment in the range of \$1,000-\$5,000 not including installation and shipping. Costs for setting up a complete outdoor gym ranged from \$55,000 to \$200,000. It was apparent that this project would be cost prohibitive even for a few pieces of equipment.

Board members discussed the proposal. It was suggested that an exercise trail could be installed at less expense. Arvant will contact Brian LaFerriere regarding the research done on outdoor exercise equipment. There was a consensus that it is not something the Board should pursue further unless the Village received grant money for the project.

McCook asked for permission to donate a bench to be installed at Riverside Park. Wilson offered to bring Mrs. McCook's donation to Council for approval.

### **LARGE GROUP SURVEY FOR HEINL (BROOKS KUSHMAN PC) AND GLYNN**

Board members reviewed the two events proposed. There were no objections to the large group event planning forms from Heinel and Glynn.

### **LIAISON COMMENTS**

Council member Briggs expressed his appreciation to Board members for their hard work.

**ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Marshall referred to her report distributed to the members in their packet.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Schmitt welcomed Janice Hausman to the Board. Hausman remarked that she looks forward to contributing to the Board.

Davis reported that Goldner Walsh planted two Summer Wine Ninebark #5 shrubs in September at Beverly Park near the pavilion. Their staff cleaned up beds and spread mulch. The mulch was donated by Goldner Walsh.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.