

Present: Chairperson Arvant; Vice-Chair Kondak; Members: Davis, Greening, Ruprich and Schmitt

Absent: Hausman

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

Chairperson Arvant called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF A REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 15, 2012**

Motion by Schmitt, second by Davis, that the minutes of a regular Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on November 15, 2012 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**DISCUSS FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY**

Board members Hausman and Ruprich are co-chairing this event. Ruprich reported on preparations made for the Winter Family Fun Day and the events planned for the day. There was also discussion about the possibility of postponing the event for the reason that there is no snow on the ground and none forecast for the upcoming week. Sledding and most of the other events proposed could not take place without snow conditions.

It was the consensus of the Board that, due to lack of snow and no forecast for significant snow in the next week, the annual Winter Family Fun Day would be rescheduled for Sunday, February 3rd from 1:00 – 4:00 at Beverly Park. It is hoped that all who attend will enjoy sledding, skating, winter golf, curling, and refreshments in the pavilion.

**DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CARNIVAL**

Kondak commended former Board member and Memorial Day event organizer Jim O'Reilly for compiling a comprehensive binder including everything the Board needs to know in order to plan the parade and carnival.

Arvant asked for discussion on this year's Memorial Day parade and carnival and whether the Board should consider doing anything differently. The attendance at the carnival has been low for the last couple of years. That may be due to the 90-degree weather at the last two events. The parade turnout has been great. There has been a suggestion that the Board organize a parade and a Memorial Day ceremony without a carnival.

Board members set forth ideas for the 2013 event. A suggestion was made to sell food before and during the parade to be followed by a Memorial Day flag ceremony. Another idea was to plan a scaled back carnival.

It was mentioned that Paul Kleppert and Ron Berndt are raising money to purchase and install a Veterans Memorial Monument in the park with the intention that it would be dedicated as part of the 2013 Memorial Day event. The organizers have collected \$1,623 to date, which is one-third of the \$5,000 amount needed for a full standing monument.

Marshall commented that she will publicize this fund raising effort again in the March Villager Newsletter. Schmitt proposed that the Parks and Recreation Board consider authorizing \$1,000 of the remaining dedicated park millage fund to go towards the Veterans monument.

Discussion continued on how the Board should proceed with planning for Memorial Day and whether or not to have a carnival this year. Members talked about the games and activities offered at previous events, the work involved, and whether some of the vendors profited from their participation. Arvant said that the Board has time to decide about the Memorial Day event.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mooney commented that the Village will be going out for bids this Spring for installing electricity in the park.

### **ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Marshall reported that she was contacted by the parent of a Berkley Boy Scout from Troop 1085, Tristan Mortimer. He has participated in the Klondike Scout events in the park and is interested in doing an Eagle Scout project that benefits Beverly Park. Tristan has a suggestion, which is to build a foot bridge across a ditch that floods on the path to the sled hill near the baseball diamonds.

Board members considered the proposed Eagle Scout project and whether there was a need for a foot bridge in that location. It was suggested that there may be another project to suggest to this scout. Ruprich mentioned that baseball fields in Berkley have wooden backstops built at the ends of the ball diamonds behind the plate, which are helpful to the players. Kondak related that another project might be to build bike racks near the ball diamonds.

Marshall informed the Board that the Village will need to find a new adult park opener again this year. This is the person who meets the pavilion renter prior to their event and returns at the end of the event to assess the condition of the pavilion. The two summer park attendants are returning - Drew Steffes and Emily Corless.

Marshall offered to send an electronic meeting packet to members in lieu of delivering a paper packet. Arvant and Ruprich asked to receive the electronic packet; others opted for the paper packet.

Greening asked Marshall about a request being circulated asking that residents participate in a Parks and Recreation survey. She did not recall that the Parks and Recreation Board discussed or initiated this survey. Greening expressed concern that the Board members were not informed of the survey.

Marshall responded that she received a letter from the State indicating that the Village was at the end of the five year time limit for updating the Park Master Plan. A completed survey is required as part of updating the park master plan. Schmitt recalled that a survey was conducted for a previous master plan as a requirement for receiving a grant from the State's Clean Michigan Initiative.

**PRESENTATION FROM CAROL LINDSEY WITH MICHIGAN RECREATION SERVICES, L.L.C.**

Carol Lindsey with Michigan Recreation Services talked about the family fun entertainment and “outside the box” programming offered by her company. She described several popular performances including the Michigan Safari, Cockadoodle Doo Chicken Show, Kooky Karly Scissor Wizard, Hair & Face Fantasia, and the Essence of Equines show featuring a mini-horse. These are enrichment and entertainment types of programs that have been done at libraries, festivals, and parks and recreation activities. The times of the shows range from 45 minutes to 1½ hours. Lindsey also provides a family fun tent for entertainment at carnivals or festivals.

Lindsey addressed questions on the programs, space requirements, and charges. She can be reached at [mirecserv@gmail.com](mailto:mirecserv@gmail.com).

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Members thanked Irene Davis for hosting a December event for Board members. Schmitt thanked Administration for the great job they do for the Parks and Recreation Board and with taking care of the parks.

Arvant thanked Jen Ruprich for organizing the Winter Family Fun Day event. She remarked that the members' thoughts are with Janice Hausman, and we are looking forward to having her back soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.