

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Assistant Manager/Clerk, Marshall

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

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 15, 2013

Motion by Schmitt, second by Hausman, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on August 15, 2013 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mark Melendy was present to inform the Board that his son Kurt has completed his Eagle Scout project, which was to build and install benches on the sledding hill. Melendy distributed color photos of the finished project. He explained that Kurt could not be here because of a conflict with another activity. Kurt is currently soliciting funds from civic groups including the Lions Club and Village Women's Club to cover the project cost. Melendy recapped the expenses involved with building the benches including material, food for the workers, and a plaque. The total cost was \$657.00.

Board members thanked Kurt Melendy for the time and effort he put into this park improvement. People will love using the benches, particularly in the winter in conjunction with sledding. They have been used already by people playing disc golf. Members suggested that Kurt come before the Board after completing his fund raising efforts at which time the Board may be able to make a financial contribution to make up the remaining balance.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM THE BEVERLY HILLS LITTLE LEAGUE REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO BALL FIELDS

Parks and Recreation Board members are in receipt of a comprehensive proposal for ball field improvements dated September 10, 2013 submitted by Bob Prebenda, Director of Fields for the Beverly Hills Little League, and Paul Turner, Director of Tournaments. As part of the strategy to improve their offerings in 2014, BHLL proposes to enhance and update the fields at Beverly Park. The proposal provided details on the following enhancements:

1. New dugouts on the north diamond
2. Replace aging home plate and pitching rubber on both north and south diamonds
3. Install 80' base anchors on north diamond
4. Infield maintenance on south diamond
5. Provide a high-quality field mix on north diamond
6. Construct a storage shed for all BHLL equipment

Paul Turner provided Board members with detailed information on some of the particulars of the proposal. He mentioned that BHLL bylaws require them to obtain three bids on projects over \$1,000. Budget estimates on the dugouts and storage shed were provided by a contractor used previously. Turner asked that the Parks and Recreation Board split the cost of these ball field improvements to make this a reality for the next season. The cost to the Village would be \$15,000.

Budget Estimate Summary

Beverly Park North Dugouts	\$8,360
Beverly Park North Infield	\$4,600
Beverly Park South Infield	\$700
Base Anchors & Pitching Rubbers	\$500
Storage Shed (12' x 16')	\$14,050
 Total	 \$28,210

Questions and comments on the project were addressed by Turner and Prebenda. Turner outlined the maintenance that will be done on the south diamond this year. The emphasis will be placed on the north diamond to prepare it for the coming season because it has been neglected over the years. Improvements to the north field will ensure that the diamond will accommodate pitching requirements for multiple ages.

Board members had a number of inquiries and concerns regarding the size and look of the storage shed. Turner noted that the storage shed would accommodate teams using both fields as well as people from the Queen of Martyrs League, Country Day and others that use the field. The Little League has 35 teams with individual equipment, catcher’s gear, pitching machines, rolling chalker, and possibly equipment for dragging the fields in the future. Prebenda commented on the size and layout of the proposed shed; one wall would have a 6 ft. wide roll-up door that would be 7 ft. high. Turner remarked that the Board would be able to approve the materials for the shed once a supplier was selected.

Arvant remarked that the Board would have to confirm whether the construction of a shed would be allowed in Beverly Park. The request from BHLL is that Parks and Recreation contribute \$15,000 for the proposed projects for the ball fields.

Motion by Greening, second by Davis, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommend that the Village Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$15,000 toward the Beverly Hills Little League proposal dated September 10, 2013 for improvements to the ball fields at Beverly Park. The money would come from the Park Improvement Fund and/or the Capital Projects Fund.

Members of the Board were interested in seeing additional information relative to the dimensions, roof pitch, types of material, color, location and general appearance of the storage shed before committing to fund half of the \$14,000 cost. It was suggested that the Board agree to proceed with the proposed ball field improvements including the dugouts, infield, and pitching

rubbers in order to have the work completed before the 2014 season. Half of the cost of these improvements would be \$7,000.

Ruprich joined the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Kondak, to amend the motion on the floor to recommend that Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$7,000 from the Park Improvement Fund toward the Beverly Hills Little League proposal dated September 10, 2013 for improvements to the ball fields with the exception of the storage shed.

Vote on Amendment:

Yes - Arvant, Davis, Hausman, Kondak, Ruprich and Schmitt
No - Greening

Motion passed (6 – 1).

Vote on Motion:

Yes - Arvant, Davis, Hausman, Kondak, Ruprich and Schmitt
No - Greening

Motion passed (6 – 1).

RECAP OF MOVIE IN THE PARK

Arvant reported that the movie *Despicable Me* was shown in Beverly Park on August 19. The Board contracted with Stardust Theatre Rentals to provide the movie and popcorn. The weather was perfect and there was a huge crowd consisting of a broad range of ages. Arvant thanked Council for allocating funds for this event; she hopes the Board can do it again next year.

LIAISON COMMENTS

None

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Marshall had no comments. Schmitt pointed out that a small portion of sidewalk on the northeast corner of Norchester and Beverly was eliminated when Beverly Road was repaved this summer. Marshall will check with Public Services Director Meszler on this. Schmitt commended the Village for including a Beverly School crosswalk as part of the project.

BOARD COMMENTS

Greening referred to a proposal received from Goldner Walsh that included costs for pruning bushes and trees in Beverly Park as needed in the spring and fall, including hauling of debris. Greening would like to forward the proposal to Village Administration so this work can be done in the fall. It was understood that an expenditure that does not exceed \$1,000 can proceed without Council approval.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Kondak, to direct administration to accept the proposal from Goldner Walsh for fall pruning of bushes and trees in Beverly Park in an amount not to exceed \$900.

Motion passed.

Ruprich commented that she has seen the newly constructed benches on the sled hill, and affirmed that they are a nice addition.

Kondak thanked Arvant for organizing the Movie in the Park this summer.

Arvant mentioned that the date for the Halloween Hoot is Sunday, October 20. Board members will be called on to help throughout the day.

Schmitt thanked Eagle Scout Kurt Melendy for a great job on the sled hill benches. He thanked Arvant for organizing the Movie in the Park night.

Hausman presented additional information on her idea to install a “little free library” at Beverly Park. It is a “take a book, return a book” gathering place where neighbors share their favorite literature and stories. In its most basic form, a Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back another book to share. They can be books for adults or children. More information and examples are available at <http://littlefreelibrary.org/>.

Hausman recommended purchasing one of the little library wood boxes and have it installed on a post somewhere in the park. She would be willing to act as the steward of the little library. Hausman would like to donate the cost of purchasing a pre-made little library box. The area near the lost & found pole in the front of the park or the playground area were suggested for the location. Administration will be asked to publicize the little free library when it is available.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Davis, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommend that the Village Council accept the generous donation of Janice Hausman to purchase a “little free library” to be installed at Beverly Park.

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.