

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 7:30 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2013**

A change was made to correct the spelling of Janice Hausman's name on page 4.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Ruprich, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board held on September 19, 2013 be approved as amended.

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM BEVERLY HILLS LITTLE LEAGUE TO CONSTRUCT A STORAGE SHED AT BEVERLY PARK**

This agenda item will be delayed until later in the meeting for the reason that Beverly Hills Little League representative Todd Turner was not present.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER PURCHASE OF SOUND SYSTEM FOR PARK FUNCTIONS**

Before the Parks and Recreation Board for consideration is a proposal to purchase a sound system for use at Beverly Park for various events including the Halloween Hoot, Winter Family Fun Day, and the Memorial Day Carnival. Janet Mooney researched the type of system needed for these events and purchased a system from the Guitar Center in Southfield, Michigan. She is seeking Board approval of the \$854.91 expense.

Discussion on purchasing a portable sound system to be used for events held in Beverly Park has been a topic of discussion at previous Board meetings since early 2012. Concerns and inquiries were made at the time relative to use of the system, storage, and supervision of the equipment when used by a community organization. It was questioned whether there was a smaller, less complicated sound system than originally proposed. It was mentioned that the Board rents sound equipment annually for the Memorial Day activities at a cost of \$450-\$650.

Kondak commented that the system that is rented and used for Memorial Day is bigger than the sound system purchased by Mooney. The proposed system has two large speakers; four speakers with stands are used for Memorial Day. Janet Mooney has indicated that the system she purchased can be expanded by stringing two additional speakers at a cost of about \$300 per speaker plus an additional cost for speaker stands. This can be considered at some point.

Mooney remarked that she will return the system if the expenditure does not receive Board approval. What she likes about this sound system is that it meets the needs of the Halloween Hoot and most other park functions. Further, it was important that this system be easy to set up and operate.

Motion by Hausman, second by Greening, that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the purchase of a sound system from the Guitar Center in the amount of \$854.91. Funds are available in account number 401-905-985.00, Park Improvement Fees Capital Projects Fund.

Motion passed.

### **DISCUSS HALLOWEEN HOOT ASSIGNMENTS**

Halloween Hoot organizers Pat Greening and Janet Mooney outlined the schedule for Halloween Hoot activities on Sunday, October 20 and informed the Board when and where help was needed. Volunteers are welcome throughout the day. At least seventeen neighborhood associations, businesses, and community groups are participating in setting up stations along the trail this year.

### **REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM BEVERLY HILLS LITTLE LEAGUE TO CONSTRUCT A STORAGE SHED AT BEVERLY PARK**

At its regular meeting of October 1, 2013, the Village Council approved a \$7,000 expenditure for improvements to both ball fields as recommended by the Parks & Recreation Board at its September meeting. The Parks and Recreation Board requested further information relative to the dimensions, roof pitch, types of material, color, location and general appearance of the proposed storage shed before committing to fund half of the \$14,000 cost of that project.

An updated proposal has been submitted by the Beverly Hills Little League to construct a storage shed near the north ball diamond at Beverly Park. The Little League has demarcated the area in the park where a shed could be located so that members could view the area prior to tonight's meeting. Board members are in receipt of the written proposal including photographs and diagrams.

Paul Turner, representing the Beverly Hills Little League, reported that work has been done on the south and north ball fields since the September Board meeting. Work will start on the dugout within a week. The storage shed proposal includes a list of the BHLL equipment to be stored in the shed; exterior view and proposed footprint of the shed; specifications of the roll up door; interior view; and exterior siding description. Turner referred to the location of the 12' x 16' storage shed near the first base side of the north diamond, where it would be shielded from Allerton street residents due to existing foliage. The proposed color of the siding would be a shade of brown to be determined by the Board.

In answer to an inquiry, Turner said that the four small storage boxes that are currently located behind the north diamond backstop would be moved onto the concrete pad alongside the new shed. Two of the storage boxes are used by the Little League; Turner did not know which teams use the other storage containers. Some of the Board members assumed that the storage lockers would be removed when a shed was constructed, and that the shed would be used by all leagues.

This led to a discussion regarding the use of the storage shed. Board members were concerned that the storage shed was being proposed for the exclusive use and benefit of one organization. The point was made that this is a public park. Members referred to the long list of BHLL equipment proposed to be stored in the shed. Turner indicated that there are thousands of dollars worth of equipment stored and used by the Little League. It was understood that differentiating costly equipment owned by various organizations may be an issue.

Turner talked about the amount of money that the BHLL has put into maintenance of the ball fields over the years and the fact that the fields are used by other teams from Queen of Martyrs, Detroit Country Day School, and others. He affirmed that a majority of the children playing on the BHLL are from the Village area. Turner proposed that the BHLL pay for the shed on its own if that is what it takes for the Village to approve a storage shed for the exclusive use of Little League. Turner questioned whether other organizations who use the ball fields would want or need the use of a shed or would want to contribute to the construction of the storage building.

Schmitt suggested an alternate location on the east side of the park between the two ball diamonds. Turner responded that the location between the two fields would be ideal but may be more visible. Members suggested that the storage shed be faced with brick or a product called Thin Brick, which is a brick veneer. A brick structure would be consistent with the park pavilion. Turner was amenable to investigating the cost of brick veneer.

Chairperson Arvant identified the issues to be resolved in order to determine the consensus of the Board and to move forward with this proposal:

- 1 – Approval of a storage shed in the park and whether it can be used exclusively by the BHLL.  
The majority of Board members approved the shed construction. The exclusivity question will need to be addressed by Administration and discussed at the next meeting.
- 2 – Location  
There was agreement on the staked out location.
- 3 – Shed materials, size, height, design.  
Board members prefer a brick or brick veneer exterior. There was discussion on the building size and height. The Board requested better specifications on the materials and the roll up door. There were members who suggested a smaller size building and a 10ft. building height. The Village will require final approval of the materials and design.
- 4 – Who will pay for the shed.  
BHLL would like the Village to contribute to the cost of the storage shed. However, the Little League would agree to pay for the storage shed to ensure exclusivity of use.

The Parks and Recreation Board will address the outstanding issues at the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 21. Administration was asked to research the legality of the exclusive use of a storage shed in Beverly Park. The Board will consider a revised plan from the Beverly Hills Little League.

## **LIAISON COMMENTS**

The Council liaison was not present.

**ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Ellen Marshall distributed a sheet that recommended language to be added to the Rules Governing Pavilion Usage. Board members reviewed and agreed with the highlighted wording that will be incorporated into the Rules sheet. Rules governing Beverly Park are found in the Organizational Policies and Procedures Manual. Marshall will distribute a copy of Chapter 6 - Parks to people renting the pavilion along with the rules governing the use of the pavilion.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Greening and others indicated that they were looking forward to the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Hoot.

Hausman is moving forward on initiating the Little Free Library program. It will probably be Spring before the wood box will be installed in the park.

Hausman related an idea suggested by two Beverly Hills residents, which is to paint one of the tennis courts with Pickle Ball lines. This is a popular new sport that is enjoyed by many people, particularly middle aged adults. It is played with a paddle and a wiffle ball. Hausman will look into this and bring a proposal to the Parks and Recreation Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.