

**JOINT PARKS & RECREATION BOARD/VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES –
JANUARY 20, 2022 - PAGE 1**

Present: Parks & Recreation Board: Chairperson Borgon; Vice-Chairperson Goodrich;
Members: Bayless, and Ruprich

Council: President George; President Pro-Tem Hrydziusko, Members: Abboud,
Kecskemeti, Mooney, O’Gorman, and Peddie

Absent: Parks & Recreation Board Members: Bresnahan, Hausman, and Ross

Also Present: Village Clerk/Assistant Manager, Rutkowski
Council Liaison, Hrydziusko

Borgon called the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Municipal Building located at 18500 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Goodrich, second by Ruprich, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion passed.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF A REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING
HELD NOVEMBER 18, 2021**

Motion by Ruprich, second by Goodrich, to approve the November 18, 2021 Parks &
Recreation Board meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM GROVES ORCHESTRA TO HOLD
FORTE 5K AT BEVERLY PARK ON SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022**

Groves High School has again requested to hold their annual Forte 5K Run and Walk at Beverly Park and on Village streets on Sunday, May 22, 2022 from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM to benefit the Groves Orchestra. They have also requested to use the pavilion during this time and asked that the pavilion rental fees be waived.

There are not any Village sponsored events scheduled at Beverly Park for May 22, 2022. A map of the route was provided.

Motion by Goodrich, second by Bayless, the Beverly Hills Parks & Recreation Board recommends Village Council approve the request from Groves High School to hold their annual Forte 5K Run on Sunday, May 22, 2022 from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM. This event will begin and end at the Beverly Park pavilion and they will utilize Village streets and sidewalks for the run. It is recommended that fees for use of the pavilion be waived for this event.

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Motion passed.

DISCUSS BEVERLY PARK PAVILION RENTAL FEES

This item was before the Parks & Recreation Board to seek a recommendation as to whether the Village should revert to the “pre-COVID” pavilion rental rates or keep the same fee schedule that was in place in 2021.

Traditionally, residents of Beverly Hills may begin making pavilion reservations the first Wednesday of March and non-residents may begin making reservations the first Wednesday of April. We accept reservations for the months of May-October.

The pavilion rental fees were traditionally calculated based on the group size, number of hours, and day of week and are outlined below:

Small Groups 1 - 40 people

Residents \$40/first hour; \$5 each additional hour up to 8 hours

Non-residents \$75/first hour; \$15 each additional hour up to 8 hours

A \$100 damage deposit is also required

Medium Groups 41 - 80 people

Residents \$65/first hour; \$10 each additional hour up to 8 hours

Non-residents \$135/first hour; \$25 each additional hour up to 8 hours

A \$200 damage deposit is also required

Large Groups 81 - 150 people

Residents \$90/first hour; \$15 each additional hour up to 8 hours

Non-residents \$195/first hour; \$35 each additional hour up to 8 hours.

A \$300 damage deposit is also required

There is an additional charge of \$20 for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday rentals.

The refund policy is that if a cancellation is made at least two weeks prior to the reservation, a refund of the damage deposit plus 80% of the other fees paid will be granted. If a cancellation is made less than two weeks before the reservation date, only the damage deposit will be refunded. Renters are allowed one courtesy change to their reservation.

Last year the Board discussed gathering restrictions, fees, and the administrative process for changing reservations and issuing refunds. With these factors in mind, the Board thought it would be best to charge one rate for residents and one rate for non-residents, regardless of the group size for the 2021 season. The intent is to simplify the rental process while COVID-19 group gathering restrictions were in place. In recommending the fees, the Board also took into consideration the increased COVID-19 cleaning protocols.

After consideration, the Parks & Recreation Board unanimously recommended, and the Council approved, the following Beverly Park Pavilion Rental Rates for the 2021 season:

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Residents: \$75/first hour; \$15/hour each additional hour up to 8 hours.
Non-Residents: \$150/first hour; \$30/hour each additional hour up to 8 hours.
\$20 additional fee for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday rentals.
A \$250 damage deposit is required for all rentals.

Furthermore, the Board recommended following the State and/or County guidelines regarding group gathering restrictions that are in place at the time of the reservation. Should a party exceed group gathering restrictions at the pavilion, then the Village would be authorized to withhold the renter's damage deposit.

The Board asked Administration how the updated rental fee schedule worked last year. Rutkowski stated that it worked well.

Motion by Goodrich, second by Bayless, the Beverly Hills Parks & Recreation Board recommends that the Village Council approve the following Beverly Park Pavilion rental fee schedule for the 2022 season:

Residents: \$75/first hour; \$15/hour each additional hour up to 8 hours.
Non-Residents: \$150/first hour; \$30/hour each additional hour up to 8 hours.
\$20 additional fee for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday rentals.
A \$250 damage deposit is required for all rentals.

Furthermore, the Board recommends following the State and/or County guidelines regarding group gathering restrictions that are in place at the time of the reservation. Should a party exceed group gathering restrictions at the pavilion, then the Village would be authorized to withhold the renter's damage deposit.

Motion passed.

DISCUSS PARK #5

A. NAME

Administration created a Google Form for Park #5 name suggestions. About 40 suggestions were received. The Board and Council discussed the names they liked from the list of suggestions. The Board agreed that they did not want to name the park after any individual.

Bayless commented that he likes descriptive and historical names.

The Board discussed whether having two parks with the word "Beverly" in it would be confusing.

There was consensus among the Board that "Beverly Green," "Sunrise Park," and "Greenfield Park" were good options.

Abboud suggested soliciting more ideas from residents.

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The Board agreed to ask for more input on the top three names plus an option for residents to provide their own suggestion not listed. The Board asked Administration to create a new Google Form to include:

- Beverly Green
- Greenfield Park
- Sunrise Park
- Other _____

B. DESIGN

Borgon provided a recap of previous Park #5 discussions which included the desire for signage and seating. She also noted the limited parking in the area and how this park should be a walkable destination.

The Board and Council discussed hiring a landscape architect or putting out an RFP for design services.

Hrydziuszko and Kecskemeti commented on adding a place for cars to turn around that would visually have a low impact, but that would deter people from using resident driveways to turn around.

Abboud stated that there is a Support Healthy Aging grant available that could be used for the purchase of exercise equipment for the park. He suggested adding brick pavers. He would like this to be an inviting entrance into the Village.

The Board and Council talked about adding bike racks and bike repair stations at this location. They also discussed adding a water feature such as a fountain or wishing well.

Goodrich stated that he envisioned this park having a simple seating area surrounded by greenery.

Kecskemeti said that it must be clear that it is a public space, and it should feel welcoming. She talked about signage.

Bayless stated that this park would be a neat way to create an entrance into Beverly Hills. He would like the design to be symmetrical on both sides of the street.

DISCUSS GOALS/PLANNING FOR 2022

The Board discussed goals for Parks and Recreation for 2022.

Borgon stated that the planning for the new playground in 2023 should begin now.

Goodrich noted that 9 new parks events were added this year.

Abboud suggested having a family Olympics or family treasure hunt at the parks.

The Board and Council discussed hosting a camp out at Beverly Park.

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Borgon said it may be possible to do more, smaller scale movie nights in the pavilion.

The Board discussed the major expenses to plan for which included the gravel path upgrade, new playground, and electricity to the back of Beverly Park. They also discussed applying for a grant from the Birmingham Area Cable Board to fund wifi at Beverly Park.

The Board noted that updating the 5 Year Recreation Plan is on their to-do list for this year. Bayless stated that they should begin working on that sooner rather than later.

Aboud listed several suggestions to consider such as enhancements in the pavilion, tables with umbrellas, cameras, a sound system, a golf cart, and more wayfinding signage. He also would like to see better park branding through signs, garbage can covers, and seasonal banners.

O’Gorman said that he would like information about parks events to be more accessible and suggested reminder texts/emails for upcoming events. He would like a sign at Beverly Park, a dog park, an art in the park sale, slow roll, and more concerts in the park. He also would like to see the Riverside Park island cleaned up, more accessible, and possibly include a gazebo. He also suggested creating a garden in the park for native plants that residents could harvest.

Borgon stated that she would not want a bright electronic sign to conflict with the aesthetic of the parks.

Hrydziuszko stated that the Village does not have the manpower to harvest native plants as O’Gorman described and said that a group purchase of natives would be more economical. She suggested doing a prescribed burn at the Riverside Park island to get rid of invasive species.

The Board and Council discussed beautifying Riverside Park and adding a kayak launch.

Kecskemeti asked about a maintenance and stormwater management plan for the parking lot at Beverly Park. She suggested having a demonstration planting or rain garden.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Rutkowski noted that GEI Consultants would be resuming buckthorn removal at Beverly Park and Riverside park next week. She followed up on a question regarding a missing fence panel at Beverly Park which was removed from one side of the fence to fix another side of the fence that was damaged a while ago. She said that Comeau has been working to flood the ice rink and it should be ready to skate on soon. She said that she is working on getting a company out to sweep the chimneys at the Beverly Park pavilion.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mooney thanked the Board for having Council at the meeting.

Aboud thanked the Board and told them to keep up the good work.

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Peddie said she supports the prescribed burn idea at Riverside to get rid of invasive species. She thanked the Parks & Recreation Board for their work.

Hrydziuszko said she is looking forward to a fun, “normal” year without having to cancel events.

George thanked the Board for their work. He said he is looking forward to Memorial Day. He would like to see electricity go to the back of Beverly Park. He gave an update on the Douglas Evans parking situation and asked if there was an appetite for Public Services/Engineering to draw up parking lot plans.

Kecskemeti said if sidewalks go in on Evergreen Road, then the need for parking at Douglas Evans decreases.

BOARD COMMENTS

Ross (via Zoom) said he appreciates the participation and support from Council.

Hausman (via Zoom) thanked Council for their support. She gave an update on the Sculpture in the Parks program. She said the call for artists has been posted on 14 sites, sent to 10 colleges/universities, direct emails, and is posted on the Village website and Facebook page. Submissions are due March 1st. She said the Little Free Library at Beverly Park has become very popular and she is looking into expanding it to be able to hold more children’s books. She asked for the general consensus whether the Memorial Day Parade/Carnival will be on this year. She will reach out to Annie Lazor to see if she is available to be the Grand Marshal. She asked Rutkowski for an update on the deer coalition meeting she attended.

Bayless thanked Council for attending the meeting. He said he was impressed with the volunteerism among the Board and Council. He talked about electricity and AV opportunities to keep the park up to date and accessible all year long. He has been looking into the dog park possibility and is researching best practices regarding square footage, infrastructure, clean up, and location. He said there are a lot of questions to be answered. He asked about the plan behind flooding the ice rinks.

Ruprich thanked Council for their support and for attending the meeting. She thought there were good ideas and suggestions during tonight’s meeting. She thanked Rutkowski for her work and wished her a happy birthday. She said that the winter tree decorating did not do as well this year as it did last year and suggested revisiting the idea.

Goodrich thanked Council for their support. He is looking forward to all of the events in 2022 including Java & Jazz and the Concerts in the Park.

Borgon thanked Council for their support. She said that 2022 will be a busy and good year for progress.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.