

Village of Bellaire

PARKS COMMITTEE

Tricia Drollinger, Chairperson

Patrick Boyd

Helen Schuckel

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2021

10:00 AM

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

II. Roll Call - Attendance

Present: Patrick Boyd, Helen Schuckel, and Tricia Drollinger

Absent: None

Staff Present: Nicole Essad, Clerk, Cathy Odom, Treasurer and Bradley Keiser DPW Supervisor

Public Present: Don Waara, Dean Crandall, and Terry Smith

III. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Motion by Boyd, seconded by Schuckel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Passed by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Approval of Minutes – August 31, 2021: The minutes of the August 31, 2021, meeting were approved as presented.

Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Boyd to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2021, meeting as presented. Motion Passed by unanimous voice vote.

V. Conflict of Interest: None presented.

VI. Public Comment: None presented.

VII. Old Business

- a. Kayak Launch:** DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that this would be discussed more that the budget meetings coming up, but that there is a system that is in use that the Grass River Natural area that is significantly cheaper and easier to install. He stated that these are available through a local business, and that he is working on getting prices.

VIII. New Business

- a. Friends of Veteran's Request:** Don Waara explained that his organization is wanting to hold a Flag Burning Ceremony within the Village Limits. Chairpersons Drollinger stated that there was an idea to hold this in the 4H parking lot. She stated that the DPW

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could put sand out there and Mr. Waara could build the fire pyre on top of that. General discussion was held about how to barricade the area off to keep people from driving through it.

Motion by Boyd, seconded by Drollinger to recommend to the Village Council to allow Friends of Veterans to have Flag Burning Ceremony at the 4H parking lot. Motion Passed by unanimous voice vote.

- b. Richardi Park Improvements:** Terry Smith, Forest Home Township Supervisor, stated that the Township would like to partner with the Village to help improve Richardi Park. He stated that this started at the Unified Action Plan Committee. He stated that the Township would be receiving APRA funds, and it would be a good opportunity to start a dialog to improve the park. Dean Crandall, Forest Home Township Trustee, asked the Committee what their plans for the park are. Chairperson Drollinger stated that there is a group that is working on a skate park for in the middle of the park. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that this group is also helping with grants for replacing the equipment. Chairperson Drollinger also stated that there was an idea to revamp the entire park to group things together more efficiently. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that he would like to sit down with a professional to come up with an overall goal for Richardi Park. Clerk Essad stated that once the park and Recreation survey comes back with input from the residents, that would also help. DPW Supervisor Keiser also stated that he has talked with the County Administrator to see if the County would be willing to give a strip of land within Richardi Park to the Village so that it is not split up. Mr. Crandall stated that he would like to entirely re-do Richardi Park from scratch. He stated that someone could contact the MSU College of Planning & Design to re-do Richardi Park. He stated that students could do that to possibly save on costs. He stated that he had calls into people that help with grants to get this off on the right foot, instead of piecemealing it together. Trustee Boyd asked if the Township would be ok if the Village used the Township funds to go towards conceptualized drawings/plans of Richardi Park. Mr. Smith stated that the Township would be willing to share financial resources to develop a plan for Richardi Park. General discussion was held about who could help with drawing up plans for the park. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated he would reach out to Jennifer Hodges to get a cost estimate for a new concept for Richardi Park. General discussion was held about ideas for Richardi. Mr. Smith stated that he did not think that the tennis courts get used as much as they use to. He stated that pickleball courts are very popular. He would like to see what ideas the professionals come up with for Richardi. General Discussion was held about connecting downtown to Glacial Hills. The Committee took no action on this item.

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- c. **Boat Docks at River Street Launch:** DPW Supervisor Keiser stated this is being looked at. Clerk Essad stated that this was brought up in public comment at the last Council meeting and she wanted to see if this was something that this Committee would want to try to budget for. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that he is working with EGLE to see if docks at this location are even possible. He will have more information when this Committee meets for its budget discussions. General Discussion was held about the Ohio Street docks and getting more information for this project.
- d. **Craven Park:** Clerk Essad explained that there were at least two items that should be added to the current rules for Craven Park: no burning garbage in the fire pits, and a definition of household furniture. It was the consensus of the Committee to table this item for future discussion.

DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that the rates need to be raised to help cover costs of the Campground. He suggested \$30-35 per night for full hook up. General discussion was held about the per night rates for full hook-up. Chairperson Drollinger stated that full hook at \$35 per night is reasonable. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that he agreed and suggest that water/electric be at \$25 per night, and rustic at \$20 per night. Trustee Boyd stated that was fair. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated to keep dumping at \$5. General discussion was held about the monthly and season rates for full hook up sites. Trustee Boyd stated that the monthly rate should be \$750 per month. This still gives a discount but is within the new nightly rate. Clerk Essad stated that the season ran from April until the end of October (7 months or 214 days). General discussion was held about the seasonal rates. Chairperson Drollinger stated to raise the monthly rate to \$750 and the seasonal rate to \$5,000, and to change the season to April to October. General discussion was held about enforcing rules that only allow a two-week stay unless a monthly or seasonal rate is paid at the beginning of stay.

General discussion was held about contracts for seasonal and monthly stays. Clerk Essad also gave a brief update about online reservations. She also stated that she did not think that having reservations would make more work or less work. DPW Supervisor Keiser suggested that the Village increase the rates and enforce all the rules, then maybe in the future talk about reservations. Chairperson Drollinger stated to wait a year on the reservations. It was the consensus of the Committee to table the contracts for seasonal and monthly stays until examples could be gathered. Chairperson Drollinger asked about the idea of a campground host. DPW Supervisor Keiser and Clerk Essad stated that they do not think it is needed. Treasurer Odom stated that she thinks it is going well at the campground.

Motion by Boyd, seconded by Schuckel to recommend to the Village Council to raise the campground rates to \$35 per night for full hook up; \$750 for full hook up monthly; \$5,000 for

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full hook up for seasonal; \$25 per night for water/electric; and \$20 per night for rustic, and to also have staff send letters to the regular seasonal/monthly campers to make them aware of the rate increase. Motion Passed by unanimous voice vote.

IX. Correspondence/Reports: DPW Supervisor Keiser gave a brief update on the Ballfields. He stated that Dura Edge is done and paid, and that a local contractor submitted a bill because he could not do all the work pro bono. He stated at one outfield is left to be finished, and that the Village has signed a contract with Fineline Fencing for the fencing. The Banner Program is being rolled out -about eight banners have been sold.

DPW Supervisor Keiser asked to budget lightly for projects in Richardi. It was the consensus of the Committee to do that. Chairperson Drollinger wanted to keep putting money away for future projects, and to focus on the kayak launch.

Treasurer Odom asked to not put the \$10,000 away for the transportation station because Parks is over budget on the Ballfields. Chairperson Drollinger stated that she wants to put that away this year. Treasurer Odom stated that she did not think Parks had it but she will try to put it away.

X. Member/Public Comment: Trustee Boyd asked if the EZ Rink had been order. Treasurer Odom stated that it has been and should be here this week.

XI. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 AM to the call of the chair.

Minutes compiled by:
Nicole E. Essad, Clerk

Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: _____

Date: _____