

Village of Bellaire

PARKS COMMITTEE

Tricia Drollinger, Chairperson

Patrick Boyd

Helen Schuckel

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2022

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

Public Present: Paul Koepke, Jeff Hebden, Terry Smith, and Dean Crandall

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

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

IV. Approval of Minutes – December 23, 2021: The minutes of the December 23, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Boyd to approve the minutes of the December 23, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion Passed by unanimous voice vote.

V. Conflict of Interest: None presented.

VI. Public Comment: None presented.

VII. Old Business: None presented.

VIII. New Business

- a. **Basketball Courts:** Mr. Koepke suggested that the basketball courts at Richardi Park needed new backboards, repainting, edging, and that benches should be added. He stated that he would like to make the basketball courts more appealing looking and that the Village should maybe only improve the two upper courts and turn the smaller court into a pickleball court. He would like to have more events at the park/basketball courts. He also suggested adding lighting to the courts. He would like to see more kids and people active outside in the park. Chairperson Drollinger stated that committee talked about doing different backboards before. Trustee Boyd stated that they only found one option and never got to follow up with Mr. Koepke. He stated that for all six backboards it was about \$20,000. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that he talked to Mr. Koepke at the start of COVID and the Village was starting the process of what do we want to see in the parks, so Mr. Keiser stated that he was not going to paint the courts to tear them up. He stated that the plan for Richardi Park needed to be made before improvements were done. Trustee Boyd stated that he also told Mr. Koepke that. Chairperson Drollinger

Village of Bellaire

PARKS COMMITTEE

Tricia Drollinger, Chairperson

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would like to see benches at the basketball courts, but they would need to be permanently installed. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that there were benches there until three years ago when the kids vandalized them. He stated that the drinking fountain was in the river, and the bathrooms were vandalized again. Trustee Boyd stated that he would like to say that would change if more kids were using the park, but he believes that the vandalism is happening at an hour when the people are not there. Chairperson Drollinger stated that there were no answers for that because the Village needs to figure out what it wants to do at the park first.

- b. Craven Park Ballfields/Banner Program Update:** Mr. Hebden stated that about 18 banners have been sold, and about \$6,000-\$7,000 has been raised thus far with those. He stated that all four score boards are paid for. He stated that in the coming weeks another fundraiser will be going out to the community for donations towards the next phase of the projects (concession stand, dugouts, bleachers,). He also stated that he talked to someone who works at Elmer's who will ask that company for donations of concrete. Chairperson Drollinger asked about the community fundraiser. Mr. Hebden stated that it would be a donation campaign setup. There would be flyers sent out with a QR code that people can use to go right to the fundraiser. He also stated that there would be different levels for donations. He stated that he wanted to wait until the seasonal residents were back in the area and he will approach some bigger donations. He would like to raise another \$50,000.

Chairperson Drollinger asked what needs to be done that still needs money. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that the next big step is irrigation. He stated that there was some money in the budget for irrigation but the estimate that was used was low. He stated that the quote was just under \$40,000 installed. Treasurer Odom stated that the Village budgeted \$15,000. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that there was a person that would like to donate. He stated that the fence should be going up soon. Chairperson Drollinger stated that the Village still needs money for irrigation but everything else should be covered. She asked about the dugouts. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that those were phase two, along with bleachers and concession stand. Chairperson Drollinger stated that there was no money for those yet. Trustee Boyd stated that those items were always planned to be done later. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that when the project was first budgeted for it was getting through irrigation, fencing, and getting the fields playable. General discussion was held about bleachers and placements of those.

- c. Glacial Hills Request:** Trustee Boyd stated that this was initially for having a parking area for Glacial Hills at the Village Property that used to be a dump. He stated that after the last Glacial meeting that needs more discussion on their end. He was not sure how it would work there. He stated that Glacial needs parking, but the board is trying to figure out where to put it. He suggested that a connection is needed to town. He also thought that a bike lane up Orchard Hill Road would be a good idea. General discussion was held about Glacial Hills trying to get easements or property to make the connection in town.

Village of Bellaire

PARKS COMMITTEE

Tricia Drollinger, Chairperson

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Helen Schuckel

- d. **Richardi Park Improvements:** Chairperson Drollinger stated that the basketball courts need to be kept, at least two of them. She thought that the pickleball court was a great idea. General discussion was held about the skate park, and fundraising. Chairperson Drollinger stated that she did not think that the Village could afford a complete overhaul of the park, but she stated that improving section by section would be feasible. Trustee Boyd agreed and stated that if the skate park could take over the huge pad that would be a big visual improvement to the park. Chairperson Drollinger stated that if there were enough funds to remove that area and replace it with something better that would be good. She agrees to not spend money on the temporary skate park equipment but put it towards the permanent equipment.

Terry Smith, Forest Home Township Supervisor, stated that the Township would like to help the Village out with Richardi Park. He stated that the Township has ARPA money to use with the Village to hire a planner/park designer of the Village's choice to develop a long-range plan. General discussion on the Township paying for or helping to pay for a park designer/planner to come in to create a plan for Richardi Park. Mr. Smith stated that they did not have any specifics or numbers on it but that the park is a big part of Forest Home Township as well. Clerk Essad stated that she is still working on compiling the surveys for the Parks and Recreation Plan. DPW Supervisor Keiser asked Mr. Smith if he had anyone he would recommend hiring. Mr. Smith stated that he did not have anyone in mind but is working with Williams and Worth to figure out what the Township will be doing with its 38 acres. General discussion was held about different engineers and parks designers that could be used, and that a cohesive plan is needed to make the parks look good. Dean Crandall put up a map of Richardi Park and shared his ideas of improvements. He stated that this map could be used to help compile everyone's ideas. He also stated that he is having lunch with a grant writer to try to help with this. Mr. Crandall stated that the Park needs to have more curb appeal. General discussion was held about obtaining a quote and having the Township pay for the designer.

DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that this will be helpful in updating the Village Parks and Recreation Plan which will open-up more grant money. Chairperson Drollinger stated that the peninsula at Richardi Park has an overturned bridge. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that they had righted the bridge, but it is overturned again. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that he is struggling with parks because of all the vandalism. General discussion was held about the potential for a lifeguard and swim lessons back at the park, along with talking about getting a plan together.

Trustee Boyd stated that in the meantime the basketball courts need to be fixed up, the skate park needs to have fundraising done. Chairperson Drollinger stated that a park design could be helpful because then the area for the skate park can be outlined. Trustee Boyd stated that the park needs to be taken care of right now. He stated that the basketball courts need to be cleaned up. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that that was not budgeted for and fixing up the courts is not cheap. General discussion was held about cost of new equipment, and about the kids vandalizing the park. DPW Supervisor Keiser stated that he would like to see the plan get done first then work towards implementing the plan. He stated that this way thousands of dollars are not put into something that is bulldozed.

Village of Bellaire
PARKS COMMITTEE

Tricia Drollinger, Chairperson

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Motion by Boyd, seconded by Schuckel to recommend to the Village Council that DPW Supervisor Keiser work with Forest Home Township to find park designer. Motion Passed by unanimous voice vote.

IX. Correspondence/Reports: None presented.

X. Member/Public Comment: None presented.

XI. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 AM to the call of the chair.

Minutes compiled by:
Nicole E. Essad, Clerk

Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: _____

Date: _____