

REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES – MAY 21, 2026 –
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Present: Chairperson Goodrich; Vice Chairperson Ross; Members: Borgon, Kreit, Hausman, O’Gorman and Ruprich

Absent: Secretary Bresnahan and Bayless

Also Present: Village Clerk, Brown
Assistant to the Village Manager/ Office Manager, Landis
Council Liaison, Hrydziusko

Chairperson Goodrich called the regular Parks & Recreation meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 18500 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Ross, second by Hausman, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA

Tom Maxwell, Lauderdale, expressed concerns about communication regarding Beverly Green, stating that information on the Village website is limited and outdated. He requested that the Village post the park’s design, budget, funding sources, and timeline, and suggested outreach to nearby residents regarding site conditions. Maxwell also noted prior emails to the Parks & Recreation Board without direct response and acknowledged receiving a late response from staff on the evening of the meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 16, 2026

Motion by Hausman, second by Ruprich, to approve the minutes as published.

Motion passed.

O’Gorman arrived at the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION: BEVERLY HILLS TREE PLANTING PLAN

Jackson Goldklang of Perennial Gold, LLC presented a proposal to plant 24 native trees in Beverly Park to support forest restoration in canopy gaps and open areas. He noted severe historical loss of native habitat in Southeast Michigan and identified deer pressure and altered soil conditions as key barriers to natural regeneration. Goldklang gave an overview of the plan using locally sourced species for use in the project. Board members and Goldklang discussed seedling size, community engagement, potential school partnerships and tree tubes.

Motion by Ross, second by Kreit, to recommend Village Council accept the proposal from Perennial Gold, LLC for planting small trees in canopy gaps at Beverly Park, with a budget not to exceed \$2,530.

Motion passed.

Borgon arrived at the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

PRESENTATION: WENDBROOK PARK (SMITHGROUP)

Bob Doyle and John Quinn of the SmithGroup presented preliminary findings for the Wendbrook Park master planning process, including site analysis, building assessment, and initial programming concepts and identified the site's natural features, including Rouge River frontage, open lawn areas, wooded spaces, and floodplain, as key assets. Planning considerations include compatibility with neighboring residences, site circulation, parking needs, and the future of the existing cul-de-sac. Doyle described the existing house as structurally sound but in need of substantial rehabilitation. Doyle presented a nature-focused vision centered on walking, gathering, learning, and experiencing the environment. Potential uses discussed included nature trails, ecological education, habitat restoration, wildlife observation, small community gatherings, and river access. The Board, SmithGroup and the public discussed potential uses and programming for the site. Community feedback emphasized preserving the site's quiet, natural character and avoiding active recreation such as sports fields or courts. There was strong alignment that the park should remain passive and nature-oriented. Discussion also included Rouge River interpretation and ecological education, partnerships with environmental organizations, pedestrian connectivity, establishing a nature preserve identity and potential adaptive use options for the house.

DISCUSSION

RECAP PARK CLEAN UP

The Board discussed the recent Park Cleanup event. Hausman noted that attendance was lower than anticipated due to unfavorable weather conditions and participation was primarily from senior residents. A second Park Cleanup event is scheduled for July 13th, and members expressed hope for increased participation.

RECAP JAVA & JAZZ

The Board discussed the season's first Java & Jazz event. Board members noted that there was good attendance from young families and overall positive feedback. The Board discussed the need for a designated monthly coordinator to manage event logistics, including vendor coordination, welcoming attendees and promoting upcoming park programs and events.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE/CARNIVAL

Hausman stated that this year's parade will feature 51 entries including classic cars representing multiple decades and she also stated that Attorney General Dana Nessel was expected to attend. The Board discussed logistics matters including carnival activities, tables and chairs and arrangements for the mascots. The Board inquired about the out of order stall in the woman's bathroom. Landis stated that the replacement part is on order.

JUNE 5TH CONCERT IN THE PARK

The Board discussed the first Concert in the Park for 2026 featuring Harmonized Steel. Brown stated that the Oakland County stage has been secured for all four concerts. Ruprich discussed ongoing efforts to secure dessert truck vendors and agreed to continue pursuing options. Board

members coordinated event responsibilities, including performer introductions, payment handling, and post-event wrap-up.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Brown announced that a regular Village Council meeting will be held on June 2 at the Groves Little Theater at 7:00 PM, during which the Michigan DNR will deliver a presentation on deer management. Brown also announced that effective May 26, Parks & Recreation administrative responsibilities are transitioning to Assistant to the Village Manager/ Office Manager Adam Landis, who will assume primary coordination duties.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Hrydziusko discussed the upcoming Beverly Park playground renovation, which is expected to begin the day after Memorial Day, pending one outstanding permit.

BOARD COMMENTS

Ruprich inquired about the sculpture that was removed in the back of the park and stated that the new striping of the parking lot looks nice.

O’Gorman reported that an inquiry had been received from a representative of SOS who wished to organize a one-time charity yoga fundraiser on the park grounds.

Kreit inquired about plans for access to the baseball fields as part of the Beverly Park improvements, noting community concerns regarding the proposed field layout.

Borgon commented that she was pleased to see the new sculptures installed.

Hausman gave an update on the installations of the 2026 Sculptures in the Park and stated that the Wayne State University students’ art will be removed in July.

Goodrich reported that an LED screen has been secured for the August Movie in the Park event and a request for \$1,800 in funding was submitted to the Cable Board but it was tabled for the July meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.