

REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JULY 16, 2026–  
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Present: Chairperson Ross; Secretary Kreit; Members: Bayless, Makar, Ruprich (*arrived at 7:02 p.m.*) and Wilker

Absent: Vice Chairperson Bresnahan Members: Hausman, and O’Gorman

Also Present: Assistant to the Village Manager/Officer Manager, Landis  
Village Council President, George

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Ross called the regular Parks & Recreation meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Beverly Hills Office located at 18500 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025.

**AMENDMENT/APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Bayless, second by Kreit, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion passed.

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Each year the Beverly Hills Parks & Recreation Board elects a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary from its appointed members.

Ross opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson.

Kreit nominated Ross to serve as Chairperson. There were no other nominations, so Ross closed the floor.

Ross was elected to serve as Chairperson unanimously.

Ruprich arrived at the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Ross opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson.

Bayless nominated Bresnahan to serve as Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations, so Ross closed the floor.

Bresnahan was elected to serve as Vice Chairperson unanimously.

Ross opened the floor for nominations for Secretary.

Ross nominated Kreit to serve as Secretary. There were no other nominations, so Ross closed the floor.

Kreit was elected to serve as Secretary unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PARKS & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 18, 2026**

Bayless requested that the June 18, 2026 meeting minutes be amended to reflect the Board's discussion regarding the playground construction timeline during the Administration Comments section. The amendment noted *"that the Board discussed the Beverly Park construction timeline and Administration stated that the project was expected to take approximately six to eight weeks, with an estimated completion in mid-August, subject to the contractor's schedule."*

Motion by Bayless, second by Ruprich, to approve the minutes of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting held May 21, 2026 as amended.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **BUSINESS AGENDA**

### **A. REVIEW AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM SOS YOGA CHARITY REQUEST**

The Board considered a request from Jenny Laughlin of Thrive Hot Yoga and Lisa Corey of Schools Offer Support (SOS) to waive the Beverly Park pavilion rental fee for a fundraising event. The proposed outdoor yoga event would benefit SOS, a nonprofit organization supporting students and families within the Birmingham Public School District. The Board discussed the Village's process for pavilion fee-waiver requests, including consideration of the community benefit, nonprofit or charitable purpose, pavilion availability, and final approval by Village Council.

Motion by Kreit, second by Bayless, that the Beverly Hills Parks & Recreation Board recommends Village Council approve the request from Schools Offer Support to waive the pavilion rental fees for a yoga fundraiser on August 26, 2026 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. provided that the damage deposit of \$250.00 and Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Village of Beverly Hills as an additional insured is submitted to the Clerk's Office prior to the event.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **B. REVIEW & CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM VILLAGE WOMAN'S CLUB TO WAIVE PAVILION FEES**

The Board considered the annual request from the Village Women's Club of Beverly Hills to waive the Beverly Park pavilion rental fee for its Pink Fund event. The Board noted that similar requests have been approved in previous years and confirmed that the pavilion was available for the requested date.

Motion by Hausman, second by Ruprich, that the Beverly Hills Parks & Recreation Board recommends Village Council approve the request from the Village Woman's Club of Beverly Hills to waive the pavilion rental fees for their annual Pink Fund event on October 7, 2026 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. provided that a damage deposit of \$250.00 is provided and a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Village of Beverly Hills as an additional insured is submitted to the Clerk's Office prior to the event.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

### **A. CONCERT IN THE PARK**

The Board noted good attendance at the June concert featuring Northgate Drive and Landis confirmed that minor electrical outlet access issues had been resolved. Members discussed postponing the concert scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup> if wildfire smoke caused unsafe air quality and emphasized the need for a clear process for weather monitoring, performer communication, and public notice. The Board also noted the food truck's success and supported inviting the vendor back.

### **B. RECAP JULY 13TH PARK CLEAN UP**

The Board reviewed the recent park clean-up event and discussed possible reasons for low turnout/participation. The Board noted that public entertainment events generally attract greater attendance than volunteer clean-up activities. The Board discussed ways to improve participation at future clean-up events and noted that spring may be a more successful time because residents are generally eager to participate in outdoor activities after winter.

### **C. MOVIE IN THE PARK**

The Board discussed preparations for Movie in the Park, scheduled for August 20, 2026 including adding a Chalk Fest before the movie to encourage families to arrive early and participate in a hands-on community event. The Board discussed food options for the event. Ruprich stated that Kona Ice was scheduled to attend. Landis reported that the Cable Board approved a \$1,800 PEG grant to help fund the screen for Movie in the Park.

### **D. JAVA & JAZZ- JULY 19TH & AUGUST 16TH**

The Board discussed ensuring the pavilion and related facilities are open and ready for Java & Jazz. Administration will coordinate with DPW to have an employee check the site near the start of the event. Members also noted the need for reliable weekend coverage to address access, electricity, weather, or facility concerns.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Landis reported that missing hardware delayed playground installation by approximately two weeks and the ADA parking spaces, connecting sidewalk, fence, and drinking fountain will be completed as the project progresses. The Board discussed the project and discussed holding a ribbon cutting once the playground is inspected and fully open, possibly in connection with Movie in the Park. Landis reported that preliminary grant information had been received from HUD, but no funding release date was available. The Board will review the existing plan and seek feedback from nearby residents before finalizing the project. Landis stated that SmithGroup will attend a future meeting to provide an update and Administration is also exploring possible grant funding and collaboration with Oakland County Parks. He also reported that EGLE determined permits may be required for portions of the Riverside Park project and work remains paused while the Village awaits direction regarding permits and required restoration of the vernal pond and shoreline.

### **LIAISON COMMENTS**

George discussed lessons learned from the Riverside Park project, including the need for clearer engineering, environmental review, permitting oversight, and contractor responsibilities. He stated that the Village is awaiting written directions from EGLE before work resumes and will determine what corrective and restoration work is required. George noted that these lessons should be applied to future work at Wendbrook Park, particularly projects involving waterways, wetlands, shorelines, or bridges and the involvement of SmithGroup should help ensure that planning and permitting requirements are addressed early.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Bayless congratulated the newly elected officers and welcomed the new members. He stated that he looks forward to promoting and attending the Chalk Fest before Movie in the Park. He encouraged continued expansion of park programming and suggested a series of free yoga classes led by local instructors as a promotional opportunity in the future.

Makar expressed enthusiasm about joining the Board but questioned whether the Village has sufficient staffing to manage the number of park projects and programs underway. The Board discussed the ongoing proposal for a full-time Parks and Recreation Coordinator who could oversee projects and events, monitor weather-related cancellations, pursue grants, manage legacy-giving efforts, and serve as an internal advocate for parks and recreation.

Wilker thanked the Board and expressed support for expanding park programming. Wilker stated that active park spaces give families more opportunities to gather, help draw children away from screens, and strengthen community connections and he looks forward to contributing to those efforts.

Ruprich likes the improvements to the disc golf course and expressed excitement about the playground, water fountain, fencing, and new lost-and-found area, thanked those involved, and welcomed the new Board members.

Kreit, welcomed the new Board members, thanked Ross for serving as Chair, and supported exploring yoga in the park, possibly on Saturday mornings or during the fall. Kreit also inquired about a memorial tree/bench program and The Board asked Administration to add the item to the August or September agenda.

Ross discussed ongoing tree and woodland improvements at Beverly Park. Ross stated that the Village plans to plant 24 native seedlings grown from Beverly Park acorns, protect them with tree tubes, and schedule a tree-identification walk. He asked that Administration confirm the status of a recent tree grant. Ross also requested an update on the timeline for the next Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan and discussing the Village possibly hiring professional assistance to update the Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.