

Village of Bellaire

PARKS COMMITTEE

Patricia Drollinger, Chairman

Eldon McPherson

Helen Schuckel

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Drollinger called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Attendance

Present: Chairman Drollinger, Eldon McPherson and Helen Schuckel

Absent: None

Staff Present: Lori Lockett

Also Present: None

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Drollinger added “transportation station” to the agenda under “Discussion Items.” The agenda was approved with the addition.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded by Schuckel, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting were approved.

Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Drollinger to approve the minutes of December 9, 2013 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None.

5. **Old Business:** None.

6. **New Business**

- a) **Review of Richardi Park Regulations.**

The Parks Committee was directed by council to review the regulations at Richardi Park in light of the variance request by Short’s to set up a hospitality area to serve food and alcohol to bike race participants after the Tailwinds bicycle race August 3. The committee reviewed the Richardi Park reservation form, Code of the Village of Bellaire, Chapter 75, and the Code of the Village of Elk Rapids Chapter 34, Parks and Recreation. McPherson suggested state issued identification be provided when a group or individual makes a reservation to use the park and pavilion. Discussion occurred about who would issue a permit, where alcohol consumption would be allowed and whether it should be outside of the pavilion. The committee members agreed that its recommendations will require that the signs and the reservation form be changed, and that the code of ordinances, specifically Chapter 75, Parks and Recreation Areas, will have to be amended.

Motion by McPherson seconded by Drollinger, to recommend to village council that the chief of police be authorized to issue permits for the consumption of alcohol within the pavilion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion occurred about whether bicycles should be allowed in the park. There was agreement that the trails have reduced or eliminated the problem of bicycles in the park.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded by Schuckel, to recommend to village council to remove the prohibition against bicycles in Richardi Park. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion about pets in the park on the walking path. The committee reviewed the Village of Elk Rapids ordinance for comparison. There was discussion about changing language “seeing-eye or hearing-aid dog” to an “identifiable service dog assisting an impaired person.” After discussion it was suggested that pets, which does not include identifiable service dogs, be allowed only on the paved walking path, on a six foot leash and under control of the owner or handler.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded by McPherson, to recommend to village council that dogs be permitted on the walking path only, so long as the dogs are on a six foot leash and under the care and control of its owner or handler; and the owner or handler shall place feces dropped by the animal in a proper receptacle. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee reviewed Chapter 75, Section 75-2 Prohibited conduct, and discussed proposed changes to the provisions based on the committee’s recommendations including that Section 75-2 Prohibited conduct” be changed to “Park Rules;” that subparagraph A provide, “possess or consume alcoholic liquor without a permit issued by the chief of police. Alcohol with a permit may only be consumed in the pavilion;” that subparagraph B provide, “Pets are allowed only on the paved walking path, so long as they are on a six foot leash and under the custody and control of their handler. No horses are permitted on the paved walking path;” subparagraph C be removed; and subparagraph D include “D.1. Special events involving motor vehicles may be allowed upon authorization and issuance of a permit by the village council.”

Changes to the Richardi Park Reservation form were made to reflect the recommendations.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded by McPherson, to recommend to village council the proposed changes to the reservation form and Chapter 75, Section 75-2. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

7. Discussion Items

Drollinger pointed out that at one time signs along the walking path marked where a walker was and the distances to and from various points on the path. Discussion occurred about Luckett researching signage type, price information and grant opportunities for six signs (4th St., W. Forest Home, Broad St., Thayer Lane, the footbridge and Meadow Brook).

The transportation station at Richardi Park needs work. Drollinger suggested that the village consider repainting the pieces, setting aside money, or perhaps auctioning the pieces off, for new equipment. Discussion about whether service clubs, the chamber of commerce and scouts might assist with the project.

8. Communications/Informational: Luckett reported on the consultation with a universal accessibility advocate and the advocate’s suggestion for making Richardi Park accessible from the sidewalk near the bridge. McPherson pointed out that the fence around the transportation station needs to have boards replaced and exposed screws removed.

9. Member/Public Comment: None presented.

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Compiled by Lori Lockett, Clerk
Minutes Subject to Approval

Approved: _____
Patricia Drollinger, Chair

Date: _____