

Minutes of a Meeting of
Recreation and Parks Improvements Committee
held June 21, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Councilwoman at-large Sara Byrnes Maier, Chair
Councilman Michael Greco
Councilman David L. Tadych

Also Present: President of Council Clark, Councilwoman DeGeorge, Councilman Winzig,
Recreation Director Enovitch, Director of Public Service and Properties Liskovec.

Audience: Madison MacArthur

Ms. Maier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., thanking everyone for their attendance and outlining the topics to be covered this evening as listed on the Bay Village Recreation Department 2022 Highlights, a copy of which was distributed to those in attendance and is attached to these minutes.

2022 Bay Village Recreation Department Highlights

Recreation Director Enovitch reported on the Capital Projects currently under way for the Recreation Department. These include the Reese Park Fence replacement for which quotations have been received in the amount of \$41,000.

In Cahoon Memorial Park the following projects have been completed:

- New Air Conditioner and Heating System in Concessions \$ 6,384
- New Updated Windows in Concession \$ 1,750
- Concrete and Diamond Brite repair at the pool \$16,100

Other Projects completed or underway

- Reseal and Patch Dover Center Tennis Courts \$34,916
- Installation of new Hitting Board at Dover Center Tennis Courts \$ 7,585
- Replacement of Scoreboard at Hartman Field \$11,750
- Bradley Park Playground Completion \$36,000

The Bradley Road Playground Completion includes top features, shading, seating at the playground and mats underneath the swings and other features.

Ms. Maier noted that the Service Department is currently preparing for the installation of the pedestrian bridge in Cahoon Memorial Park. Director of Public Service and Properties Liskovec stated that construction and delivery of the bridge has been delayed due to supply chain issues. The start date hinges on the delivery of the structure itself, which is slated for October. The

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contractor has a 90-day window to start and complete the installation project, and will mobilize mid to late August for site preparation.

Mr. Liskovec stated that the restroom project in Cahoon Memorial Park is completed with the epoxy floors installed this past week. A small water leak was discovered at that time and has since been repaired by the contractor.

Fixture upgrades to the restrooms at both Bradley Park and Reese Park have been installed in an effort to curb vandalism. The restrooms are open the same hours as the ballparks. Other measures are being taken to prevent vandalism.

Chagrin Valley Engineering is currently designing the modification to the intersection of Cahoon Road and Wolf Road.

Ms. Maier noted that Project Manager Kerber has been seeking grants for projects as recommended by the Cahoon Master Plan. Nothing has come through thus far, but funding is being sought through the State Capital Funds. A NatureWorks Grant for the Village Green Project is being submitted with results due in the fall. Mr. Liskovec noted that a contract is in place with HBM Architects for the design and construction plans, and project administration for the Village Green.

Ms. Maier asked Recreation Director Enovitch if there are any major projects anticipated for the Recreation Department within the next two years.

Mr. Enovitch stated that upgrades at the municipal pool are forthcoming to maintain the facility. The concrete deck will need to be replaced, but for the most part things are solid for the Recreation Department and facilities are very strong at this time. After the Dover Center Road tennis courts are finished, all the City tennis courts have been redone. The fencing will be installed at Reese Park.

Mr. Greco asked if the tennis courts will be done all at one time. Mr. Enovitch stated that they will be done at one time, taking two or three days, depending on weather conditions. The courts will be patched identical to the way they were done at Coulton Courts in Bradley Park. After the cracks are patched they will seal the courts, do a complete reseal and paint new lines.

Summer Program

Mr. Enovitch stated that as of this time 2,383 pool memberships have been sold and there has been a total of 9,776 admittances to the pool. Average visits are 808 per day, and 1,130 people visited the pool on Memorial Day. A total of 137 registrants signed up for swim lessons. The swim team is quickly approaching 200, at 198 currently. The first meet will be held on Thursday, June 23.

Other programs include the Itty Bitty Fun Camp with 27 participants, and T-Ball for ages 5 through 7 with 78 registered, and 64 registered for the Tot T-Ball. The Track and Field Program at Bradley Road Park has 53 participants. A skateboarding company has been conducting

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skateboarding lessons at the Bay Skate Park and this program has drawn 32 youth participants. Tennis continues to be a favorite in Bay Village with 150 children participating. The Arts and Crafts class known as STEAM has 26 registered, and the Art Exploration Camp is being enjoyed by 32 participants. The Recreation Department has exceeded 2021 numbers in many categories. An uptick in registrations is predicted as summer moves on.

Ms. Maier asked if the offerings are more limited than they have in the past. Are fewer sessions being run for the swimming lessons?

Mr. Enovitch stated that the program is tweaked occasionally, presenting on demand. Importance is placed on getting kids in the water for Levels 1 and 2, with adjustments made accordingly. The schedule is very much the same as it has been in the past few years. Interest drops after the Fourth of July, and lessons are adjusted with higher level lessons offered later in the summer.

Ms. Maier asked if there have been any issues with staffing. Mr. Enovitch stated that staffing has been more than adequate thus far. There are over fifty life guards on staff.

Ms. Maier asked if there have been any demands for other types of programs.

Mr. Enovitch stated that as new ideas arise they will offer new programs to see if the number of persons interested justify creating a program. Pickleball is very popular now. The Recreation Department management keeps watch on what other communities are offering, and tries to offer those programs in Bay Village. There are programs that thrived pre-COVID that have not returned to their former state of popularity. A three-on-three indoor basketball league has not come back as it existed before the pandemic.

In the fall, football will be very popular. Cheerleading draws many participants. The younger-aged basketball program has been extended to include a pre-basketball program in the fall, and picked up again in late winter/early spring. Kindergarten through high school age youth participate in that program during the winter. Sports are very popular with the Kindergarten through 1st and 2nd grade, and the Recreation Department tries to meet that need.

Mr. Greco asked what Mr. Enovitch would like to have for a total lifeguard staff. Mr. Enovitch stated that some years he will have over sixty guards, which is always great. He noted that they want students that are committed to working. Fifty students who want to work is a perfect number. They scramble when students do not want to work and school resumes in August. About 25% of the lifeguards return each year.

Mr. Greco asked if lifeguard certification classes are offered at the pool. Mr. Enovitch stated that they do offer certification classes at the pool and provide information regarding classes for certification held at indoor pools.

Ms. Maier noted that closing time at the pool has been reduced from 9 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mr. Enovitch stated that it was difficult to fill the 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. shift. The starting rate of pay for certified lifeguards is \$12.00 per hour, going up .25 cents per year.

Bay Soccer Club

Ms. Maier stated that the Bay Soccer Club President Dave Barker has expressed concern about the unlevel playing surface on the soccer fields. Ms. Maier asked about the operation and long term plans for the soccer fields. There has been discussion in the past about wanting to put additional soil on the fields. The Bay Soccer Club would like to have communication with City Council and the Recreation and Parks Improvement Committee about long term planning for the soccer program. The Cahoon Master Plan trail development was thought to be an opportunity to level out some of the fields, although there would not be enough to do the entire project. That use of the soil from creating the trails is still under consideration.

Recreation Director Enovitch has received a quotation for additional soil for leveling the fields. The price per 100,000 square feet is \$210,000. This would include sod installation, grade establishment, and removal of some vegetation.

Ms. Maier stated that this would be significant with all the issues of the landfill cap and the drainage, and that the City is limited on what can be done on those fields because of those issues. She asked if there has been any sort of look back in the past for a comprehensive plan for the soccer fields?

Mr. Enovitch stated that sometimes the plan changes as it has in the past. They were looking at doing certain quadrants, but then the scope changed to certain fields. There is a plan in place to address certain quadrants in Cahoon Memorial Park working with the Service Department. This would involve taking certain fields out of service for a year or year-and-a-half. Ultimately, that is the plan, but once again the demand changes and things go in a different direction.

Ms. Maier suggested memorializing that schedule out for a period of ten years, with improvements to be made and budgeted for those improvements, allocating for additional resources from the City to expedite some of the Capital improvements on those fields. Ms. Maier noted that this is something the Recreation and Parks Improvement Committee can take under consideration. She noted her experience in being at the fields with her son that she can see the point that the Soccer Club has about the uneven surface. There needs to be more understanding from the Soccer Club and the City regarding the fields, and this is something she would like this committee to work on.

Mr. Tadych asked if the funds have been received from the Bay Soccer Club for their contribution toward the Cahoon Memorial Park restroom/concession/storage facility.

Ms. Maier stated that Mr. Barker was very complimentary to the work that Mr. Enovitch and Mr. Liskovec are doing and noted that there has been an improvement in the conditions. Ms. Maier noted that the soccer field improvement is an area where it seems like there needs some work from this committee.

Mr. Winzig stated that the only other addition is there has been some discussion about adding water to Walker Road Park. The officials of Avon Lake stated that when Kopf began the

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development of the property to the north of the field waterlines would be accessible. Mr. Winzig suggested taking a look at a timeline as to when we can add water to the fields. It was something that Avon Lake felt they could handle internally. Because they have their own water supply there wouldn't be a cost for the water. They said that when they begin Phase 3 we should convene our Bay Village/Walker Road Park Ad Hoc Committee and discuss the water.

Mr. Tadych commented that the water problem has been in existence for four or five years.

Mr. Winzig stated that they are just waiting for the lines to come in at the southern most part of the development. Perhaps later in the year we could check in and see where it stands.

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m. Ms. Maier thanked everyone for their participation.

Sara Byrnes Maier, Chair

Joan Kemper, Clerk of Council