

## VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Monday, October 7, 2013

President McLaughlin called the Special Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Roll Call.

### Present

Martin J. McLaughlin, President  
Fritz H. Gohl, President Pro Tem  
Joseph S. Messer, Trustee  
Karen S. Selman, Trustee  
Patty Meroni, Trustee  
Colleen Konicek, Trustee  
Michael Harrington, Trustee  
  
Michael Murphy, Police Chief  
Rich Semelsberger, Deputy Chief  
Robert Kosin, Village Administrator  
Dolores Trandel, Village Clerk  
Anna Paul, Building & Zoning

### Guests

Emily McHugh, resident  
Jim O'Donnell, resident  
Jim Hammond, resident  
Karen Trzaska, resident  
Arnold Cernik, resident  
Matthew Boccabella, resident  
John Knight, resident  
Lou Flannery, resident  
William Adair, resident  
Maria Hayes, resident  
Dede Wamberg, resident  
Holly Free, resident  
Steve D'Amore, resident  
Michael Sullivan, resident  
Dennis Gallitano, resident

Pledge of Allegiance

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jean Mandrell, 10 Ashbury Lane – She has been listening to the Board meeting recordings and knows of the Fall Fest. Being a Park District Commissioner, she understood the questions and concerns that were put forth. Since she tried to attend most Board meetings, she has known about the Fall Fest for some time, as all of the Trustees have also known about it. She would like to make this Event a reality. This is not a Trustee Konicek/President McLaughlin Fall Fest, it is for Barrington Hills. She feels that the next board meeting should be at the Countryside School to accommodate more residents regarding the BCFPD. She also suggested sending home a flyer with the students at Countryside school so more residents are informed.

Dede Wamberg, 52 Brinker Road – She is here to talk about The Hills are Alive. She thanked the Board for allowing the bikers event in Barrington Hills. She stated she feels, for the first time, that she can participate in this Village. She said that she did not feel welcome up until now She has sent suggestions on how to make it better. She is going to be the Old Lady Who Lives in a Shoe and Had So Many Children she didn't know what to do, on Sunday with her apron on stuffed with candy. She would like to spend more time at the Riding Center and have others

there as well, whether or not you have horses. This is the first year of this Event and she is sure mistakes will be made and we can correct those mistakes for next year. We need to work together.

Bill Adair, 100 Berron Lane – Asked that the Board please keep that in mind in scheduling other events, that every other year, the Friends of the Forest Preserve has an event which he feels is critical.

Karen Trzaska, 230 Otis Road – Stated that she was surprised that there was any opposition to this Event. She has three children and has lived in Barrington Hills for thirteen years and loves it. Her ex-husband moved to Barrington and he loves it. Barrington has a lot of Block Parties that she attends and when asked how she likes Barrington Hills, she says she loves it, but Barrington Hills does not have Block Parties and she does not live on a cul de sac, she lives on a county road, so there is no feeling of community. So when she heard about the Hills Are Alive Event, she felt this would be a great thing for her kids to feel part of the community.

Pauline Boyle, 315 Ridge Road – Stated she thought that this meeting was about how the Event is to be funded. She offered to personally write a check for whatever funding the Village needs. End of argument.

The HILLS Are Alive Report – President McLaughlin asked that if there are any other questions at this time that were not addressed at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, as this Special Meeting has been call for by Trustees Meroni, Selman and President Pro-Tem Fritz Gohl. He realizes there are other items that need to be addressed and between Village Administrator, Robert Kosin and Anna Paul, they are here to answer them tonight.

Anna Paul, Building and Zoning Coordinator, introduced herself to the audience and stated that she has been coordinating the Hills Are Alive Event. She explained all the activities that will be available as well as an Organization area where we will have Community Organizations that are looking for more volunteers so our residents can meet them and find out what they have to offer. We will have food, beverages, deserts, a small bonfire run by the Boy Scouts. The Barrington Park District is sponsoring pony rides. We are going to have a very novel Chicken Contest for our residents to vote on the best looking chicken and rooster. We will have an Animal Awareness Club that will be there with exotic animals and will be there to teach you about them. Prairie Land will be doing a compost demonstration and they are also providing us with waste receptacles. There will be music starting at 2:00 p.m. The Pony Club will be doing a demonstration. There will be Balloon Creations. The Polo Club will be doing a demonstration.

President McLaughlin asked Robert Kosin about insurance coverage and the Village's liability in co-sponsoring this Event with the Village of Barrington Park District.

Mr. Kosin responded that the Village has received certificates of insurance from all three active vendors, Meeske Meats, Wicked Chocolates and The Onion Pub. Under our General Liability

Insurance as well as personal property damage, the Village has a provision within it to provide for activities of this nature which is a standard element in policies for public entities that our Carrier stated we are covered.

Trustee Messer asked about alcohol and Mr. Kosin replied that hosted alcohol is a provision and we had that specifically provided for in the certificate of insurance that is independent of the vendor certificate. Trustee Harrington added that this also rolls over to our umbrella coverage and our excess liability coverage.

President McLaughlin asked Ann Paul about attendance. Ms. Paul stated that a mailer was sent out to all our residents and they can bring in the mailer to receive free reserved food tickets. Ms. Trandel will be recording the number of tickets given out.

Regarding health issues, Mr. Kosin has reached out to the private food contractor who does business with Inverness and the Village has engaged him and he will be doing the inspections.

Trustee Gohl asked about parking. Ms. Paul replied that parking will be in the pastures. Chief Murphy and Deputy Chief Semelsberger will assist with the parking detail. This will be at no added expense to the Village.

Ms. Paul stated that Chief Arie has arranged for the paramedics to be on hand. All volunteers will fill out the standard waiver that is required.

Ms. Paul stated that in the event of rain, the Riding Arena is large enough to host all of our activities. Algonquin Township donated a large tent and there will be tables and chairs for people to sit on as well as hay bales. We will have four Port A Potties and a golf cart to assist handicap residents. We have about twenty adult volunteers and some high school students who have expressed interest.

Trustee Gohl voiced his concern regarding the Open House the Police Department has for six years and very few residents attended. He also stated that all of the Trustees have volunteered to donate \$100.00. Now we are totally covered. He would like to know where everyone got the idea that the Trustees are against this. We will find out tonight when we vote on it.

Trustee Meroni stated that it seems to be a perception that the Trustees are against this and that is not the case at all. The reason she requested the meeting tonight is to confirm the actions are taken as required. This is the first time the Village has done something like this. We should require a resolution. It is our responsibility to protect the Village. I am concerned that this never came to the Board for a vote. For an Event that is this important, the Board of Trustees need to be included in all the planning.

Trustee Selman agreed with Trustees Gohl and Meroni. There was no one on the Board who is against this Event. This Event was not in the budget. The planning on this Event has been loose from the get go. When you came to the Communications meeting, you said 75% of this was planned this morning.

President McLaughlin disagreed. This was discussed at the Barrington Park District, it was discussed at the June, July, August and September Board meetings and at the Communications meeting twice. At this time, I would rather move forward. As Trustee Harrington stated at our last meeting, this Event is a good idea that everyone is supporting and behind.

Trustee Harrington asked if we could agree that the communication was not as effective as it could have been. We are all learning here and next year, it will be better.

Trustee Meroni again mentioned the lack of communication on the information on insurance. If she would have been given the documents, that would have been the end of the discussion.

Trustee Messer said he was also concerned when he heard that the Village would be serving alcohol, especially after the accident on Rt. 62. The Village was underinsured, at that time, and is still paying off the bond. He stated he would not have wanted to be a Board member when this occurred, where I did not watch out for the best interest of the Village. When I learned of this Event and that there was going to be alcohol, I was obviously concerned about the scope of our liability to the Village. That's why we need to all get together to talk about these things. I think this is a great Event.

President McLaughlin stated in the short window that we had to get this done, he thanked Ms. Paul, for the great job she has done. He also thanked Mr. Kosin for all his work and if anyone has any questions that are directed at him, he is also available. He is finding that communications with Trustees are improving, which I welcome. With that being said, this a free non-partisan event in a relaxed environment. There are a number of great organizations that are going to be there and he would welcome all of our residents to come out and find out about these organizations.

In regards to an actionable item, I did take direction from Mr. Kosin and Burke, Warren in regards the necessity for a vote, which based on a non-expense, non-liability or additional liability costs, which is why it was not placed on the agenda as an actionable item this evening. At this time, I would like to ask each Trustee to voice their opinion if they are in favor or not in favor

Trustee Meroni stated she spoke to a number of attorneys and there is a way to format and structure an event like this that is sponsored by the Village and the Hills Are Alive is an assumed name and has been used since it's inception and ultimately, the Village of Barrington Hills and the Park District are the ones that are sponsoring this, it behooves the Village and the Park District to set this up and structure it for next year because it is questionable how the money flowed. There are a number of events in the area and there is a structured way in how to proceed

and that needs to be followed so we are not putting ourselves in jeopardy of any kind of accusation of kickbacks or anything, as we do have a number of vendors that have donated money to this. I don't think our vendors want to be in that position and I think next year, we have to set it up right.

President McLaughlin took this opportunity to thank all the vendors for their contributions.

At this time, President McLaughlin asked if the Trustees would like to make a statement whether in favor or opposing

Trustee Harrington asked Mr. Kosin if there was any down side to having a formal vote on the record. Mr. Kosin replied that you can accept this as a report given, just as we do on the Finance Committee.

Trustee Selman thanked Anna Paul for all her hard word on the Event and wanted to go on record as the Finance Chair, that the hill we had to climb in this budget cycle, she is not in favor of using full time staff for party planning and as I was look at this whole issue, what I would like to see us do is create a committee that would be chaired and charged with party planning or event planning, because I know that our community does enjoy these types of events. I received an email from Mrs. Wamberg and she said would be willing to serve on such a committee or even chair it. I will be the first one to go on record that I do support this Event. Trustee Meroni concurred hoping it will be a great success as did Trusteed Gohl, Messer, Konicek, Harrington and President McLaughlin.

President McLaughlin thanked and invited everyone to come to the Hills Are Alive Event.

Trustee Konicek said unfortunately she already had a trip planned and will not be able to attend, but she will be there in spirit.

Trustee Gohl made the motion to adjourn the Public Session at 7:25 p.m. Trustee Meroni seconded. All present voted Aye:

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Approved** \_\_\_\_\_